CONVENTION OF OTAKU GENERATION
2025
OTAKON®
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오타콘

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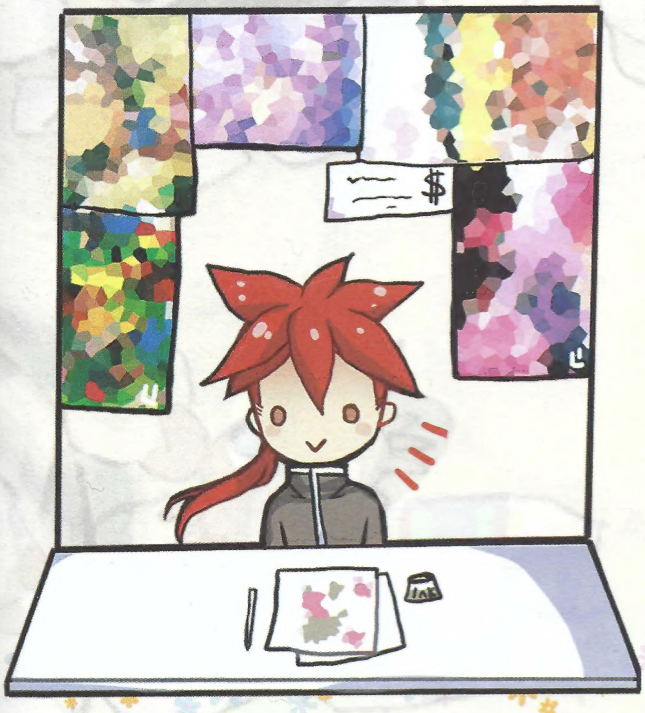
FLORA AND FAUNA OF THE TRI-STATE AREA
1, AMERICAN SYCAMORE TREES
2. AMERICAN BEECH TREES
3. CLOUDLESS SULFURS
4. SUNFLOWERS
5. STRAWBERRIES
6. BLUEBERRIES
7. DIAMONBACK TERRAPINS
8. STARGAZER LILLIES
9. GREAT SPANGLED FRITILLARY
10. BUTTERFLY WEED
11. EASTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL
12. ROSE MALLOW HIBISCUS
13. HIBISCUS

MERCHANDISE? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

T-shirts and keychains and pins oh my! Stop by the **official Otakon 2025 merch booth** at the *back of Dealers hall* for all new (and some retired) designs! You never know what you might find!



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For over 30 years, Otakon has been a place for acceptance and friendship, centered on our shared love of East Asian media. We remain committed to providing a diverse and inclusive community at our event - now, and in the future.

Online Assistance & Social Media

Get answers to your questions:
www.otakon.com/help/contact-us

Make sure to follow us on social media for updates and general happenings during con!

Tumblr: https://Otakon.Tumblr.com/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Otakon
Bluesky: https://bsky.app/profile/otakon.bsky.social
X: https://twitter.com/Otakon (@Otakon)
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/otakonpics
TikTok: https://www.tiktok.com/@otakonofficial
Discord: https://discord.gg/Otakon

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear OtaFam,

For over three decades, Otakon has been a gathering place for celebrating Asian culture. For many of us, it has become something more: home. Otakon is a place to reconnect with friends, discover new passions, and feel like you truly belong.

Myself included.

When I attended my first Otakon in 2006, I knew I had found more than just a weekend event. I found a family that embraced and supported my love of anime, cosplay, and fan culture. The community welcomed me with open arms, and I became determined to help others feel that same sense of belonging and safety.

I joined staff in 2010 and was assigned to the Dealers Room. That year something unforgettable happened, and if you were there you probably remember it vividly, too. A fire alarm forced everyone in the Baltimore Convention Center to evacuate into the summer heat. I remember walking out of the building and watching a literal sea of fans flood the streets. In a moment filled with so much uncertainty it was somehow beautiful. Strangers shared water and shade, local businesses opened their doors, and despite the chaos people found joy. That weekend showed me the true spirit of Otakon: community, compassion, and creativity.

This year's event took the year-round dedication of over 150 staff—none of whom are paid—and the on-site support of more than 900 additional volunteers. Together with our venue and service providers, we have worked hard to create a safe, exciting, and welcoming space for all of you. It's a labor of love that, for many of us, has become more than just an event. We all strive to make this weekend memorable, so that everyone can celebrate their love of Asian culture through music, art, cosplay, video games, panels, guest interactions, shopping, and so much more.

Please remember to take care of yourself and others: eat, hydrate, and shower. If something doesn't feel right, let a staff member know. We're here to help.

I hope the weekend brings you new, happy memories and stories you'll retell for years to come.

Welcome home, Otakon Family.

Victoria MacEntee
Convention Chair, Otakon 2025

HALL COSTUME CONTEST 2024 WINNER HIGHLIGHTS

1ST PLACE NOVICE
Mirrordivis as Agrat Bat Mahlat
from Shin Megami Tensei V

BEST IN SHOW
REMNANT ALLEY as
PROJECT SEKAI GROUP

1ST PLACE JOURNEYMAN
CannoliCat31 as Melia Antique
from Xeonblade Chronicles

BEST YOUTH
General C. Cosplay as Jing Yuan
from **Honkai Star Rail**

1ST PLACE ADVANCED
Appledress as Mint Fantom
the **VTuber**

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APPETIZER &
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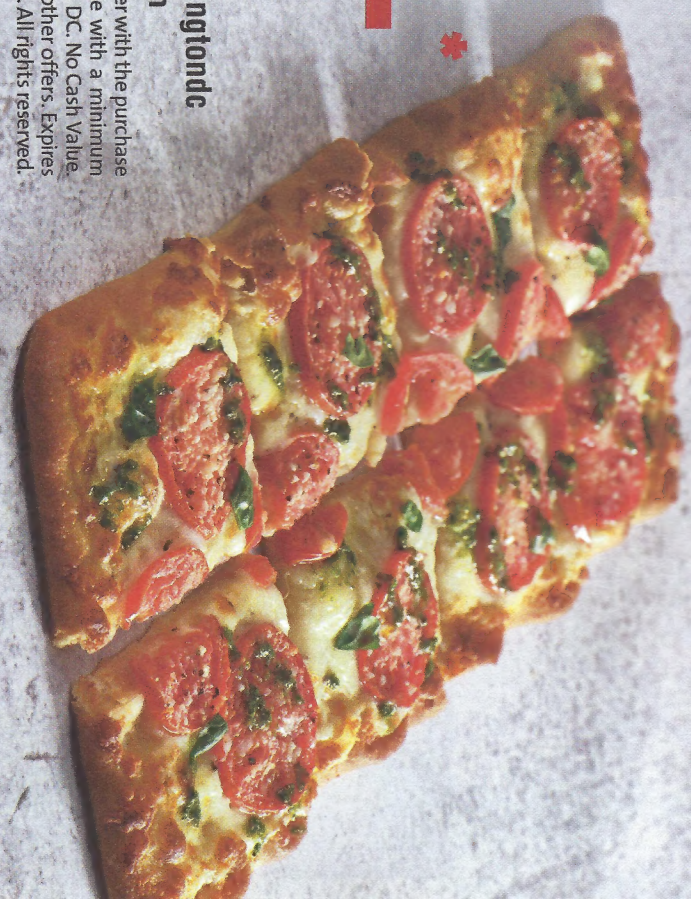
*Present this coupon to enjoy a complimentary appetizer with the purchase of two entrées. A 15% retail discount is also available with a minimum spend of $25. Valid only at Hard Rock Cafe Washington DC. No Cash Value. Chef's Choice of Appetizer. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires on 04/30/26. ©2025 Hard Rock International (USA), Inc. All rights reserved.



OTAKON RULES

BEHAVIOR POLICY ("THAT RULE")

Your membership in Otakorp, Inc. entitles you to enjoy the primary benefit of that membership: you get to attend Otakon! But as the man said, with great power comes great responsibility. We work very hard to ensure that Otakon takes place in a safe, family-friendly environment, and we need your cooperation. We have policies to address specifics, such as weapons and lost children. We also have a general policy that we do not tolerate disruptive behavior of any sort, and we can and will take action, when we see something we feel is dangerous or disruptive. The type of action we take may range from a quiet but stern word in private to forcible ejection from the convention, revocation of your membership in Otakorp, Inc., or even criminal charges.

Action taken is solely at the discretion of Otakorp, Inc. The sorts of things that may trigger such action include, but are not limited to, verbal/physical/sexual harassment, fighting (fake or real), heckling, impeding traffic flow, offensive behavior, failure to observe basic hygiene, public inebriation/intoxication, or any other failure to follow the rules and directions of staff members. Remember, anything that is illegal outside the Convention Center, is illegal inside! If your behavior is clearly problematic, we will deal with it as such. Show common courtesy to your fellow otaku, and follow the rules, so there are no problems.

LINE ETIQUETTE

With so many people attending, waits in lines may last hours. We know that this is frustrating, but it is unavoidable. Please don't take it out on other attendees, or on the staff, and please remember that following the directions of staff members will make the lines smoother for everyone! When lining up, be sure to check for Otakon Staff holding "Line Starts Here" and/ or "Line Ends Here" signs. We can't promise to have them up for every event, but please be mindful of them, to get you in faster!

NOTE: Members caught jumping in line will be sent to the rear of the line. You will not be allowed to hold places in line. Lines cannot block entrances or exits, so leave a gap in front of the doors, per Fire Codes.

CAMERAS AT OTAKON

The usage of photographic devices is prohibited within certain areas of the convention, including but not limited to Video Theaters, within Main Events and/or concerts, and in the Art Show. All such areas will be marked, so please pay attention. Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to, cameras (both film and digital), camera phones, and camcorders. Photography within the Artist Alley is only allowed at the discretion of the individual artist. Permission must be obtained from the artist for photography of any kind. Events that allow photography will be marked as such.
Ask for permission before photographing others. When stopping to take photographs in the hallways, please be considerate of your fellow members by being brief and not blocking traffic.

PHOTOGRAPHING GUESTS AT OTAKON

Otakon's guests have the right to maintain their privacy. Convention members may be asked to refrain from photographing guests if the guests would prefer to not have their picture taken. Guests have been known to join con-goers for photo opportunities, but there are no guarantees.

CHILDREN AT OTAKON

Otakon is a fun family event, but also one of the largest Japanese animation conventions; there is an expected attendance

of at least 40,000 people. Otakon wants to ensure the satisfaction and safety of all of our members, especially children. In order to safeguard the well being of our youngest attendees, Otakon has put these policies into effect and offers some advice to keep track of children at any large convention. A parent or guardian must accompany any and all children under the age of 12, at all times.

Children are required to carry some form of written identification and parent/guardian contact information with them at all times, so that Otakon staff may contact the parents or guardians should the need arise. THERE IS NO CONVENTIONWIDE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT SYSTEM. We are unable to page your child, if he/she becomes lost.

RECOMMENDATIONS

First and foremost, please do not leave your child unattended at Otakon. As mentioned before, we are expecting an attendance of over 40,000 people at the convention. It is easy for a young child to get lost in a crowd this large.

Make sure your child knows important information, such as your name, what you are wearing, what hotel you are staying at (if any), a cellular phone number, and a home phone number. If a child is lost, we will make every attempt to contact you via this information.

It is a good idea to set up meeting places and times for children older than 12. Otakon suggests that you do not use the following locations as meeting areas: the Dealers Room, as it is constantly crowded and extremely large, and the video theaters because they are dark and also fairly large. We do suggest using landmarks, such as the grand staircase or the rainbow pillar in the Convention Center. Any of the Otakon Information Desks are also good meeting spots.

In the case that you cannot find your child at your designated meeting place, and you cannot establish contact, please notify an Otakon Information Desk attendant.

Otakon wishes you and your children a safe and happy convention!

DANCE AT OTAKON

Only Otakon members will be allowed into the dance. Valid Otakon 2025 Membership badges must be clearly displayed at all times within the dance area. Otakorp Inc. is not responsible for members' bags. This includes but is not limited to outside, beside, or near the entrance to the dance.

No bags (of any size) will be allowed in the Hall during dance hours. Empty plastic bottles will be allowed into the dance. Any other container types will not be allowed. No large costume props allowed. **Pop-up Lockers are available on-site.**

No commercial grade photography or videography equipment is allowed.

Please be considerate of the other dancers and REMEMBER, drink plenty of water!

NOTE: All other Otakon policies are enforced in the dance, such as disruptive behavior and swinging items attached to rope/string/chains/etc.

18+ POLICY

There are certain events at Otakon that are designated as 18+. Members who wish to attend these events must be at least 18 years old and MUST obtain a wristband from the wristband booth near Registration prior to the event. Please have your identification ready when obtaining your wristband. Otakon Staff will not be able to check identification at the door.

The 18+ Wristbands Booth closes at 1am on Friday and Saturday nights. It is best to get wristbands early in order to avoid potential delays or other unforseen circumstances.

PHOTOGRAPHS & PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL POLICY

Participants in Otakon or other Otakorp, Inc. events are granting their permission to be photographed or recorded by authorized Otakorp, Inc. individuals. By purchasing your membership, you inherently grant Otakorp, Inc. permission to use such images or footage for archival or promotional purposes.

MEMBER ACCESSIBILITY

Otakon makes every effort to accommodate the needs of our diverse membership. If you have accessibility concerns, please inform us so that we can let you know what accommodations are available. The Member Accessibility desk is located near the main registration area, on the left side of the Main Entrance Lobby. If you have any questions about the resources we provide, we encourage you to stop by and talk to us (or come by if you just want to say hello –we love hearing from our members!). Typically, the services we can provide are meant to help accommodate those with visual/auditory limitations, neurodivergence related to crowds or noise, or those with any mobility issues–including trouble standing for long periods. Please come talk to us if you feel you may need those accommodations.

For those who may need it, please come to the desk for more information about our ASL interpretation services. We also have a quiet room available in the WEWCC (Room 142). We understand that coming to our desk may be intimidating for some members (we don't bite, though) and so this room is open to the public. If you encounter any problems in the quiet room, please come to the desk or contact the closest staff member and ask them to call for Member Accessibility.

Member Accessibility does not provide medical providers/professionals, medical services, or rent out medical equipment, such as wheelchairs. Please contact third-party vendors if you require any of these, or call 911 if in need of emergency services. We are also not a skip the line pass for events. We do our best to accommodate your needs, but you may still be asked to wait like all other attendees. We will make a reasonable effort to make sure that your experience is comfortable but please feel free to let us know how we can improve.

GENERAL COSPLAY POLICY

- In general, no one will be permitted to be topless, bottomless or barefoot in convention spaces.
- Garments must cover all genitalia and nipples, and none should be visible through the costume.
- If a costume calls for a thong, g-string, pasties or the like, a bodysuit or leotard must be worn beneath it. Body paint, liquid latex, makeup, and/or pasties are not acceptable as coverage on their own.
- If a costume is significantly tight, items such as nipple shields and/or dance belts may be required to ensure proper coverage.
- Any apparel that depicts any sexual or violent content that is not suitable for all ages is not permitted.
- Any apparel with inflammatory or derogatory language is not permitted.
- Any apparel with hate speech or hate symbols is not permitted.
- Cosplays cannot replicate or impersonate official law enforcement, emergency services or military personnel uniforms, nor shall anyone be allowed to impersonate those individuals.
- Skates, rollerblades, wheeled shoes or other types of similar footwear are not allowed in convention space.
- Carts or wheeled props are not allowed in convention spaces. The only exceptions are for wheelchairs and other ADA compliant mobility devices, as well as strollers used to transport small children.

OTAKON RULES

SIGNS AT OTAKON

While we understand the appeal of signs as ice-breakers and conversation starters, there have been too many complaints from other members about offensive content or signs that amount to little more than pan handling. No signs are permitted except for those signs that are an established part of a costume (i.e. the sign must be part of the standard "look" of the character, such as the sign carried by Genma the Panda from Ranma 1/2). Those members wishing to post notices or find other people should use the bulletin boards provided. Please note that signs asking for food, money, hugs, etc. are considered panhandling and signs offering to exchange any sort of sexual favor (kisses, hugs, glomps, etc.) are considered solicitation.
Signs with offensive content are not allowed regardless of whether they are "in character."
Signs in violation of this policy will be confiscated. Repeat offenders will be considered in violation of the disruptive behavior policy.
Please note that this policy applies to all types of signs, regardless of construction. Otakon staff decisions regarding signs are final.

WEAPONS AT OTAKON

Weapons policies at Otakon are for your (and others') safety, and include (but are not limited to) the following:

Non-Permitted Weapons

METAL WEAPONS ARE NOT PERMITTED in Otakon convention spaces without exception. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Swords, spears, axes, bayonets, knives, sai, throwing knives, darts, or shuriken. This is regardless of sharpness or if they are sheathed.
- This also includes metal cooking utensils such as forks, BBQ forks, knives, spatulas, tongs, frying pans, pots, woks or similar.

METAL OR WOODEN SPORTS EQUIPMENT IS NOT PERMITTED. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Bats, tennis rackets, golf clubs, or javelins.
- Bokken, shinai or similar practice weapons made out of metal or wood.

PROJECTILE WEAPONS OF ANY KIND ARE NOT PERMITTED. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Real or antique firearms, including replicas or decommissioned firearms.
- Real ammunition or ordinance, including shells, casings, or bandoliers.
- Airsoft guns, B-B guns, spring guns, blowguns, bowguns, bean shooters, slings, darts, or similar items.
- Stun guns, tasers, batons, mace, knuckle dusters/brass knuckles or similar self-defense items.
- Functioning bows, such as compound bows, crossbows or similar.
- Items that propel other types of matter, such as water guns, silly string, money guns, or confetti poppers.
- Confetti, glitter, or similar items are not allowed in general.

PADDLES ARE NOT PERMITTED.

- This includes BDSM or Yaoi paddles.
- Handcuffs are not allowed unless they have a safety release button.
- Real whips and riding crops are not allowed.

NUNCHAKU ARE NOT PERMITTED

- Nunchaku are defined as two sticks or other bodies connected at their ends with a short chain or rope. Two sticks can be made of any material, or shape.
- Three-section staves are not permitted.

EXPLOSIVES or PYROTECHNIC CHEMICALS ARE NOT PERMITTED. This includes, but is not limited to: Smoke powder, sparklers, or fireworks of any kind.
DRONES or RC CRAFT ARE NOT PERMITTED
LASER POINTERS ARE NOT PERMITTED
GLASS CONTAINERS ARE NOT PERMITTED. This includes, but not limited to: Glass soda/beer bottles, jugs, jars, cups, stemware, vases or similar.
APPLIANCES ARE NOT PERMITTED. This includes, but is not limited to Grills, air fryers, coffeemakers, electric kettles etc., even if they are not functioning and/or cannot be plugged in.
WHEELED VEHICLES ARE NOT PERMITTED. This includes, but is not limited to carts, wheeled props, skates or wheeled shoes. The only exceptions are for wheelchairs and other ADA compliant mobility devices, as well as strollers used to transport small children.
If it is illegal in the District of Columbia, it is illegal inside Otakon convention space. Any illegal weapons will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

Permitted Prop Weapons

THE FOLLOWING PROPS ARE PERMITTED IN OTAKON SPACE

- Staves, swords, and other items made out of wood, plastic, foam or other similar material as long as they are handled responsibly and meet all other criteria.
- Prop swords that are linked together by a rope or short chain as long as the rope/chain can be easily detached upon request.
- Resin, rubber, or 3D-printed guns with no moving parts that have a bright orange tip.
- Toy or water guns with no moving parts (including triggers, slides, pump handles, or removable ammo clips) are allowed as long as they have a bright orange tip.
- Prop bows may be carried in the convention space, provided they are NOT strung with authentic bowstring, and any alternative material used (e.g. twine, yarn, any other non-functioning material) is not attached to the bow in a taut fashion. Any prop bow should be strung in a way that makes it unable to fire a projectile.
- Any arrows, bolts or similar are allowed as long as they are not sharp, made of metal and conform to the prop policy in general.
- Plate and chainmail armor are allowed if there are no sharp edges, and it does not interfere with the owner's ability to move normally.
- Any chain must be less than three feet (3') in length regardless of material. This includes, but is not limited to, chain wallets and non-costume chains.
- Musical instruments and/or speakers that play music are allowed if the music is played at a respectful volume and is not disruptive to those around you.
- Toy, rubber, and plastic kitchen utensils or cookware are allowed.
- Toy kitchen appliances are allowed if they are not plugged in or operating on batteries.
- Props shall be limited to less than six feet, six inches (6'6") in height and less than fifty pounds (50lbs) in weight.

In general, props should not be sharp, difficult to handle, should not be a fire or tripping hazard, and should not be disruptive or obstructive to those around you.

Behavior with Weapons/Armor/Props

- If a prop becomes a hazard to yourself or others, Otakon or convention space staff may direct you to remove the prop from the premises.
- Misuse of a weapon, armor, or prop (such as swinging it in a public area or posing a hazard to others, as determined by staff) will result in the weapon or prop being deemed unsafe for the convention, and you will be asked to remove the item from the convention center.
- All props and weapons brought into the convention will be inspected for policy compliance by authorized Otakon staff and/or DC Metropolitan Police. Approval must be given for each Otakon event; having approval from prior Otakon events or from other events does not mean the prop is approved for the current event.

Remember: Just because a staffer has not stopped you to check your item does not mean that the item is allowed. All decisions made by Otakon and/or the Public Safety Staff of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center are final.

This policy is subject to change at any time.

AUTOGRAPHS

Autographs are always a major highlight for attendees when attending a convention. The following will be Where to find them, How they work, What to do and some tips and tricks.

Official Autograph Policies

GENERAL POLICIES

- Otakon does not and cannot guarantee that you will receive an autograph from any particular guest.
- Memberships will not be refunded due to the inability to obtain an autograph from any Guest.
- Otakon staff reserve the right to refuse access or remove members who fail to follow the rules and directions outlined in these policies or verbal instructions.
- Be respectful and considerate of Guests, Otakon Staff, and other members.
- Otakon reserves the right to make amendments to any autograph policy. We will strive to communicate any changes in a timely fashion.
- Please ask the Autograph Staff if Guests are accepting notes or gifts; do not hand them to the guests directly. Any notes or gifts should be presented to an Autographs Staff member to review. Absolutely no food or drink will be accepted.
- There will be no photography or video recording during official signing sessions, unless otherwise noted.
- The following rules and etiquette will be enforced during official autograph sessions:
- Keep guest interactions brief.
- Do not touch, hug, or give a handshake to the guests unless the Autographs Staff has indicated it is allowed.
- Do not request excessive personalization, sketches, etc., unless the guest offers.
- Prepare any personal items to sign before reaching the guest's autograph table. (i.e., removing the plastic wrap, having the item opened to where you want the autograph)
- Personalization (your name) may be required for the autograph; if so, Autographs Staff will provide a sticky note or note card for you to write out your name. Please write legibly and in block capital letters. Do not use any inappropriate nicknames/aliases.
- Some guests will be signing in a group; please keep in mind that it is polite to get autographs from everyone in the group.

Otakon International Guests Autographs Sessions Overview:

General Information

- Queues for autograph sessions will open 30 minutes before the session starts.
- Members who arrive more than 30 minutes early will be asked to leave the area to prevent crowding and safety hazards.
- Loitering is not allowed in the area, as it can create a potential fire hazard.
- Once the line space fills up, Autographs Staff reserves the right to end the autograph line based on the guest's availability.
- Guests may provide tickets or vouchers during their panels or as part of other Otakon promotions. If you receive one, present it to the Autographs Staff to be admitted.
- These passes should not be assumed to be available. If your priority is to get an autograph, please follow the proper procedures to obtain one.
- Any rescheduling of sessions will be communicated as soon as possible via the official Otakon channels.
- Any autograph sessions in the Autograph area are free for all members. (Exceptions include any merchandise being sold by the guest, which will be communicated in advance.)
- Members will be limited to one free autograph per session.
- Once you have received your autograph, please exit the autograph area promptly to help reduce traffic and ensure safety. If you are waiting for a companion or friend, please wait outside the immediate autograph area.

MEMBERS WITH ACCESSIBILITY TAGS

- Otakon Autographs will use a proxy system for any members with accessibility tags. Please see the Member Accessibility desk in the Grand Lobby, to obtain a tag. Members with Accessibility Tags should line up as usual in the autographs line and then flag an Otakon Autographs Staff member to use the proxy system.
- Proxy System: A companion or willing member will hold the place of a member with accessibility issues. Autographs Staff will provide the companion or Member with a proxy item to indicate the placement where the member with accessibility should be. The Otakon Autographs Staff will then escort the accessibility member to a seated area to wait for their proxy to move up in line. The proxy item is to be returned to the Autographs Staff after the Member has received their autograph.

WHAT WILL BE SIGNED

- Guests during Otakon autograph sessions will sign one item per member during their allotted session. Any changes will be communicated by signage or verbally by the Otakon Autographs Staff in charge.Guests will sign your Otakon program book, autograph boards or shikishi, or any officially licensed merchandise for which they are credited.
- No Funko Pop figures, including their packaging, will be accepted for autographs by international guests.
- Guests will not sign bootleg items, unlicensed merchandise, or material for which they are not properly credited.
- Asking guests to sign prohibited items may result in your removal from the Autographs area.
- Guests may choose to sign handmade or personal items at their sole discretion. Please check with Otakon Autographs Staff before approaching the Guest's table.
- Some Guest sessions may only be signing promotional items they are providing, which will be at no charge to the member. In such situations we will do our best to communicate this in advance. We ask that you respect these circumstances and refrain from requesting any other items to be signed.
- Any apparel, clothing, and towel items to be signed should be unworn and clean. This will also be at the discretion of Otakon Autographs Staff and Guests. Additionally, no parts of the body will be signed under any circumstances.
- If you're uncertain about a particular item, check with the Otakon Autographs Staff member in charge of the session. Otakon Autographs Staff may reject any item deemed unsuitable for signing at their discretion, and such decisions are final. We recommend that members prepare an alternative item for an autograph in case of rejection, e.g., the Otakon Program Book.

EXHIBITION BOOTH / INDUSTRY AUTOGRAPHS (NA/EU)

- Guest appearances and signings in industry/exhibition booths are not managed or scheduled by Otakon, and are not subject to Otakon's official autograph session rules.
- Guests located in exhibitor booths or industry booths will sell merchandise and sign autographs for a fee, as listed by the Guest.
- For pricing and scheduling questions, please contact the Otakon Staff at that booth.For members with accessibility needs, please speak to the Otakon staff in charge of the Guest's line.
- While limitations on what item is signed do not apply, please abide by the offering list of the Guest. Additionally, any non-official merchandise and personal items are subject to the Guest's approval.

These policies are subject to change at any time

CODE OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE

Otakorp is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization run entirely by volunteers. This code of conduct outlines our expectations for all those who participate in our events, meetings, corporate business, and community social media, as well as the consequences for unacceptable behavior. We are committed to providing a friendly, safe and welcoming environment for all, regardless of gender, identity, age, sexual orientation, ability, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and religion (or lack thereof).

We invite all those who participate in Otakorp to help us create safe, friendly, and positive experiences for everyone. If you see someone who is making an extra effort to ensure our community is welcoming, friendly, and encourages all participants to contribute to the fullest extent, we want to know.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Your cooperation is needed to ensure Otakorp, Inc. events and communication channels are a safe and family-friendly environment. Disruptive behavior or harassment of any sort is not tolerated. Violations of our Code of Conduct may result actions such as:

- A private discussion of behavior with the appropriate parties
- Forcible ejection from the event
- Revocation of your membership in Otakorp, Inc.
- Ban from online participation and/or future events

1. EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

The following behaviors are expected and requested of all Otakorp, Inc. volunteers and participants:

- Participate in an authentic and active way. In doing so, you contribute to the health and longevity of this community.
- Exercise consideration and respect in your speech and actions.
- Attempt collaboration before conflict.
- Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech.
- Be mindful of your surroundings and of your fellow participants. Alert Otakon Staff if you notice a dangerous situation, someone in distress, or violations of this Code of Conduct, even if they seem inconsequential.
- Remember that community event venues may be shared with members of the public; please be respectful to all patrons of these locations.

2. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

The following list of behaviors provide examples of what is considered unacceptable within our community. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Violence, threats of violence or violent language directed against another person.
- Sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic, ableist or otherwise discriminatory jokes and language.
- Posting or displaying sexually explicit or violent material (excluding designated 18+ content, panels, etc).
- Posting or threatening to post other people's personally identifying information ("doxing").
- Personal insults, particularly those related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, body type, or disability, etc.
- Heckling
- Public inebriation/intoxication
- Non-consensual photography or recording (excludes Otakon's official Con Coverage Photographers)
- Non-consensual physical contact. You need to have someone's consent before touching them.
- Unwelcome sexual attention. This includes: sexualized comments or jokes, inappropriate touching, groping, and unwelcomed sexual advances.
- Sustained disruption of community events, including talks and presentations at meetings and conventions. Continuing to engage in such behavior after you have been asked to stop.
- Anything that is illegal in the community is also illegal at our events.

3. CONSEQUENCES OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

Unacceptable behavior will not be tolerated from any member, volunteer, attendee, participant, sponsor, vendor, contractor, partner, or guest.

Anyone asked to stop unacceptable behavior is expected to comply immediately. If a member engages in unacceptable behavior, Otakorp may take any action they deem appropriate, up to and including a temporary ban or permanent expulsion from participation, without warning (and without refund in the case of a paid event).

4. REPORTING GUIDELINES

If you are subject to or witness unacceptable behavior, or have any other concerns, please notify an Otakon staff member as soon as possible. At a convention or event, contact Access Control. Locate an Otakorp Volunteer Staffer if you need assistance locating them (they will typically be wearing a black shirt labeled "Otakon Staff" and they will be wearing a staff badge). Access Control will escort the person in distress to a safe space (quiet room, Access Control, Staff Support, etc).

If you wish to report online, you can contact us via otakon.com/help. If the incident occurred on our Discord, you can flag the message as inappropriate to our moderators.

5. ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES

If you feel you have been falsely or unfairly accused of violating this Code of Conduct, you should notify us with a concise description of your grievance. Please see Contact Info section for how to contact us. Your grievance will be handled in accordance with our existing governing policies.

6. SCOPE

We expect all community participants (contributors, paid or otherwise; sponsors; and other guests) to abide by this Code of Conduct in all community venues-online and in-person-as well as in all one-on-one communications pertaining to community business.

Limitations: Illegal Code of Conduct violations occurring outside of official event or online spaces cannot be enforced by Otakorp; situations of this nature might require engagement of law enforcement by the individual. Examples including, but not limited to: stalking, drugs, weapons, assault (sexual or otherwise).

7. VOLUNTEERS

Otakorp is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization run entirely by volunteers. As a volunteer for Otakorp Inc., you are expected and required to conduct yourself in a professional and business appropriate manner at all times while representing the organization. Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. Violations of Otakorp policies or the code of conduct will be considered grounds for possible and immediate dismissal.

8. CONTACT INFO

You may contact us about this code of conduct via otakon.com/help.

9. LICENSE AND ATTRIBUTION

Portions of text derived from the Django Code of Conduct, the Citizen Code of Conduct, and the Geek Feminism Anti-Harassment Policy. Approved by the Otakorp Board of Directors, September 16, 2017

CAMP OTAKON STAMP RALLY

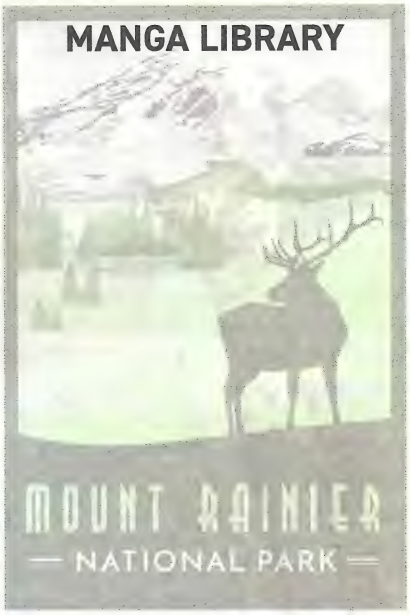
Check out some of our favorite national parks as you traverse the outer reaches of Otakon. After collecting all seven stamps, make sure to alert your final stamp giver for an extra bonus surprise!

MARRIOTT INFO DESK

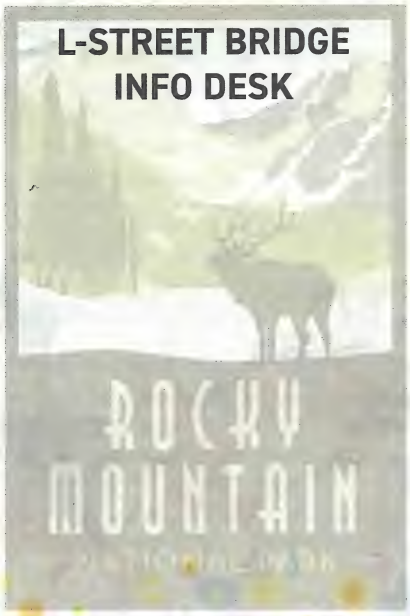
MAKERSPACE

ART SHOW

MANGA LIBRARY



L-STREET BRIDGE INFO DESK



ARTIST ALLEY OPERATIONS TABLE

MECHA KAIKAN

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

WEWCC MARRIOTT

Opening Ceremonies

FRIDAY AT 12:00PM NOON

MAIN EVENTS, LEVEL 3 - BALLROOM A/B

Please join us as we kick off Otakon with style! We will have guests, previews of events, and maybe even a gundam! Wait we just heard the gundam budget was cut, but there will be a t-shirt cannon! We hope to see you all here.

Information Desk

ALMOST EVERYWHERE

Think of this as your one-stop source of information. If we don't know the answers to your questions we will be able to find someone who does.

Panels

VARIOUS ROOMS

Otakon proudly features an extensive track of fan-based panel content that ranges from professional educational content to game shows and fun informational discussions and performances and presentations. Panels is excited to bring old favorites and the newest of new content to Otakon every year.

Dealers Room

LOWER LEVEL - HALL B/C

Come satisfy your capitalist urges in Otakon's Dealers Room! Vendors in the Dealers Room sell a variety of anime-related and Asian pop culture merchandise, as well as Otakon merchandise to immortalize your weekend of otaku-tinged joy. Please note: we've learned from experience that planning to meet your group of friends in the Dealers Room is a needle-in-haystack proposition, so please make plans to meet somewhere less gigantic.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday: 12:00pm - 8:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 7:00pm*
Sunday: 10:00am - 3:00pm

**This is not a typo. This is the first time the Dealer's Room closing time has changed since Bill Clinton was President.*

Artist Alley

LOWER LEVEL - HALL A

The Artist Alley at Otakon is a chance to meet hundreds of artists and experience their work up close. A wide variety of talent can be found here, making this a great opportunity to get a heads up on the artists of tomorrow and a chance to get close to the ones of today. So come see your favorite artists, crafters and web comic creators up close, and see how they create the things you love. With many works for sale and artists taking commissions, you never know what goodies you'll walk away with. Refer to the Awesome Sheet of Awesomeness for hours of operation.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday: 12:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday: 11:00am - 9:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am - 3:00pm

Art Show & Live Auction

LEVEL 3 - BALLROOM C

Stop by to see exquisitely crafted pieces and beautifully created artwork offered by our members. Register as an artist and/ or bidder, or stop by to peruse the fine wares offered by our members. Exciting live auction held Sunday at 11am sharp.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Art Show/Silent Auction
Friday: 10:00am - 10:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 9:00pm

Live Auction
Sunday: 11:00am

Art Pick-up
Sunday: 11:00am - 2:00pm

ARTWORK AND ONLINE BIDDER REGISTRATION:

Thursday
Artwork registration: 11:00am - 8:00pm

Friday
Artwork registration: 10:00am - 10:00pm
Bidder registration: 1:00pm - 10:00pm

Saturday
Artwork registration: 10:00am - 2:00pm
Bidder registration: 10:00am - 8:45pm

Registered bidders can place Silent Auction bids online at any hour.

Workshops

VARIOUS ROOMS

Let your creativity spark within the Otakon Workshops track! Whatever way that you express yourself, you will find a home in Workshops. These interactive events will help you learn a new skill or hone your existing talents no matter your age or experience level.

The Workshops track includes interactive and hands-on content. Included in our programming are classroom-style events, dance events, workouts, game shows, and cultural education. Our classroom inspiration covers a multitude of artistic media where you get to make nerd-inspired crafts or learn a new skill. Our dance Workshops cover everything from KPOP and anime workouts to cultural dancing.

Workshops programs are a great destination for those looking to get inspired in the company of other creative Otakon attendees. So let's have fun together!

Hall Costume Contest

LEVEL 1 - ROOM 159

The Hall Costume Contest is our cosplay craftsmanship competition. If you would like to participate and either did not pre-register or were put on the waiting list, limited spots will be available on a first-come-first-served basis in Room 159A between 10:00am - 10:45am Friday or 9:00am - 9:45am Saturday. You can also check out some of the competitors at the catwalk during the Masquerade Saturday evening.

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Lyra's Formal Ball

FRIDAY AT 8:00PM

CLUB OTA, MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M4

Prepare for an evening of cosplay, music, and dancing. We look forward to seeing everyone dressed to the nines!

In general, clothing should be modest, not skin tight, and not reveal a large amount of skin. It should also not drag on the floor with a long train. Think of what a person or character might wear to a formal event like a wedding or prom. Crossplay is welcome as long as the attire is appropriate for the character being portrayed. Accessories like top hats, canes (that meet our weapon/prop policy), or hand fans are welcome. Full dress code rules are online.

Cosplay Coordination

LEVEL 2 - HALL D/E

The Otakon Cosplay Coordination department is back for another year to help facilitate and promote cosplay photoshoots! Because the photoshoots are Otakon 2025 official, they're on the schedule. If you're going to cosplay, check it out and see if there's a relevant photoshoot you can attend: there's everything from anime to manga to video games listed in the guide! Even if you don't cosplay, but like to scope out all the great costumes on display, you're welcome to observe the photoshoots and even take pictures, as long as you're not disturbing the cosplayers or photographer for the event—and as always, follow the directions of Otakon staffers and obey the Otakon rules! If you have questions, don't hesitate to find a staff member or go to an Info Desk!

Cosplay Rescue

LEVEL 1 - ROOM 101

The Cosplay Rescue staff is prepared to fix almost anything and everything that comes through the door in Room 101. We can handle hot glue failure, worbla re-shaping, makeup smudges, wig wandering, popped seams, fabric tears, snapped staffs, acts of Cthulhu, and logistical restructuring of costumes that defy the laws of physics and fabric. Cosplay Rescue has dressing rooms and disposable gowns for more sensitive repairs. Not sure if Cosplay Rescue can handle your repair? Our front desk staff can provide you with the short list of items we will not take due to convention rules. *Cosplay Rescue is always free of charge.**

**All repairs done at Cosplay Rescue must be done by staff, please do not ask if you can borrow equipment, tools, etc and do it yourself.*

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday & Saturday:
9:30am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 8:00pm

Sunday:
10:00am - 2:00pm

Check out our manga collection here

Manga Library

LEVEL 2 - 209

The Manga Library, is a great place to read that manga that you've been meaning to check out. With hundreds of volumes of manga on the shelves you're sure to find something that will interest you. Librarians will be on hand to answer any questions that you might have. Just as some say the book is always better than the movie, there are some that say the manga is superior to the anime. Now's your chance to find out!

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday & Saturday: 10:00am - 8:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am - 3:00pm

Masquerade

SATURDAY AT 6:00PM

MAIN EVENTS, LEVEL 3 - BALLROOM A/B

Competitors ranging from enthusiastic novices to seasoned veterans will use every skill at their disposal to amaze and astound you with their wild costumes and even wilder skits! The show also features a catwalk of the amazing crafters who participated in Hall Cosplay.

Fashion District

MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M2 SALON 12-13

The Fashion District is home to our fashion HQ! Tucked away in a quiet corner, come relax, socialize, and have fun with fellow lolita and J-fashion enthusiasts. There will be a handful of limited seating workshops available throughout the weekend, some with signups online ahead of time. All Otakon members are welcome, even if not currently wearing lolita fashion.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday: 10:00am - 7:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 7:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am - 3:00pm

**The Fashion District will close during the Fashion Show and re-open after the show is finished*

Fashion Show

SATURDAY AT 12 NOON

FEATURED EVENTS, MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M2 BALLROOM

Join us for our Otakon 2025 Fashion Show! This year we have featured designers AcroTokyo and Metamorphose, with several local and indie designers as well.

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

WEWCC MARRIOTT

Cybertronic Crash Out: An Immersive Anime Visual Novel Escape Room"

LEVEL 2 - 208

Come make new anime friends and solve mysteries! A cosplay robot malfunctioned at an anime convention and they're sending you in to figure out what happened. In this one-of-a-kind experience, you will become the main character in a visual novel inspired by your favorite cyberpop animes, interacting with characters on screen and the physical room around you. Can you figure out who was behind the glitch at the con? Featuring original artwork by @crystalheartedkat and writing by @nathaniel.counts

AMV Contest

AMV THEATER, LEVEL 2 - ROOM 202

Come watch a two hour showcase of top-notch Anime Music Videos from around the world, as their creators compete in this year's AMV Contest. Help us determine the winners by voting for your favorite AMVs on Friday and/or Saturday. Ballots will be provided at each screening. Results will be announced during the "AMV Contest Winners" screening on Sunday.

(Henta)iron Editor

FRIDAY AT 11:15PM
AMV THEATER, LEVEL 2 - ROOM 202

Two AMV editors have two hours to make an AMV in front of a live audience, usually accompanied by participation games and other nonsense. Also this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there know how cool you are for watching. What's up, you cool baby.

Ota-chan

LEVEL 1 - ROOM 149

Ota-chan is back this year for a whole new year of fun and brand new programming! Ota-chan is a room for kids and the kid in all of us. Throughout the convention, this room will host activities including craft and project tables, anime movies, and fun galore! There is also space to get away from the hustle and bustle of the convention and enjoy some quality family time with some Anime inspiration. Kid-oriented Workshops and events are returning this year, so look in the schedule to see all the Ota-chan events. These events are geared specifically for kids 8 and under and their families.

- *Please note: parents are responsible for staying with their children - besides, if you leave, you'll miss all the fun!*

Lost & Found

GRAND LOBBY, LEVEL 1 - ROOM 102A

Have you lost or found an item? Please visit the Otakon Convention Lost and Found department to file a form for your lost item or to turn in a found item. We are dedicated to assisting the members and staff when they have either lost or found an item.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Thursday: 3:00pm - 10:00pm
Friday & Saturday: 8:00am - 1:30am
Sunday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

Live-Action Role Playing (LARP)

LEVEL 2 - ROOM 201

LARP is a combination of improvisational acting and a set of rules for situations that would be unsafe to act out. In this LARP you take on the role of an anime character in a setting that we have designed. Along with the other players you will create a weekend long crossover fanfiction. You do not need any special props, tools, or costumes, just an imagination and a willingness to interact with others. The LARP mainly takes place in a designated area within the convention center. While the LARP runs throughout the weekend, you can participate as much or as little as you desire. Here is a preview of this year's story.

Do you think Tamaki Suoh could survive Battle Royale? Does money truly beat out brawn? Do you think your favorite character could beat the corporate hegemony, if they got enough cybernetics? Come join OtaLARP, "The Capital Games". Crawl out of the Red. May you reach the Black.

Character pickup and early registration is from 12-2pm on Friday. Opening meeting begins at 3pm on Friday, followed by the start of game. People may pick up characters/start play at any point until the room closes Saturday.

LARP OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday:
noon - 2:00pm: *Registration / Designated Character Pick-up* 3:00pm - 4:00pm: *Opening Meeting / Story Start*
4:00pm - midnight: *Open Play*

Saturday:
9:30am - 5:00pm: *Room Open*
5:00pm - 7:00pm: *Dinner*
7:00pm - midnight: *Open Play*

Sunday:
9:30am - noon: *Open Play*
noon - 2:00pm: *Final Events*
2:00pm - 3:00pm: *Closing Ceremonies*

Video Rooms

VARIOUS ROOMS

There's nothing quite like watching your favorite shows and movies on a large screen, surrounded by fellow fans who share your passion. Feel the excitement and camaraderie as you immerse yourself in exclusive screenings, classic favorites, and the latest hits from Asia. Check the room schedules for information and see what our team has curated for this year!

Kpop Showtime

FEATURED EVENTS

Calling all K-POP fans! K-pop Showtime is back! Come watch dancers from across the US compete for the title of Otakon's K-POP Showtime all star as judged by our special guests and you! Whether you're into Gen 2 K-POP or current, our amazing performers will keep you screaming for more.

Saturday:
7:30pm - 9:30pm

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Otaku Dance

SATURDAY AT 9:00PM
CLUB OTA - MARRIOTT MARQUIS M4

The Otaku Dance occurs from 9:00pm to 1:30am Saturday night. If you like loud music, a great crowd, and dancing all night, this is where you want to be! Please be aware that no bags are allowed in the dance.

GENERAL INFORMATION & HOUSE RULES:

- No bags (of any size) will be allowed in the hall during dance hours
- No large costume props allowed
- Must have a valid Otakon badge to enter dance
- Water stations (free) will be available throughout the room
- No bottles will be allowed into the dance.
- No commercial grade photography or videographer equipment.

ADDITIONAL RULES FOR OTAKU DANCE:

- Must display badge at all times within the dance.
- No glow sticks on strings (to avoid potential injury)
- No excessive public displays of affection
- If you are under the influence of ANY substances, you will be asked to leave.
- No fighting.
- Hula hoops can only be used provided space is available, and may or may not be permitted into the event.
- R.O.A.R. --> Right of absolute refusal

Member Accessibility

GRAND LOBBY, LEVEL 1

The Member Accessibility Desk is located near registration on the left side of the Main Lobby Entrance. We're here to address questions you may have about accessibility-related concerns. We want all of our members to have a great Otakon 2025! Stop by to ask about the Quiet Rooms, solicit the services of an ASL interpreter, or just to say hello!

Video Gaming

LEVEL 2 - HALL D/E

Gaming at Otakon is huge! If you thought our Video Gaming Hall in previous years was good, well you're in for a treat since we have expanded it even more! We're filling an entire hall of the convention center with video games and arcade machines from all eras, classics you remember, current games you love, plenty of games straight from Japan, and games by Indie Developers! Show off your skills and compete against your fellow con goers in casual play or enter one of our tournaments.

Closing Ceremonies

SUNDAY AT 4:00PM MAIN EVENTS,
LEVEL 3 - BALLROOM A/B

It is always sad to say goodbye, but join us as we honor our contest winners, thank our guests and learn some of the magical details about next year's event!

HOST CLUB Show

Friday & Saturday 8:00 PM - 12:00 AM
SALON C, LEVEL 1

Looking for something to do in your evenings here at Otakon? Well, for the first time, Otakon has its very own host club! Join our hosts and hostesses for 1 hour (or more!) of conversation, company, and entertainment curated for your satisfaction. This interactive experience is for attendees ages 18 and up. You may even share a drink with your lovely hosts and hostesses, including alcoholic beverages sold within our space, but that does require proof of the minimum legal drinking age of 21! Tickets are available online.

Lolita Try-On

Friday & Saturday 8:00 PM - 12:00 AM
CHINATOWN ROOM - MARRIOTT MARQUIS M3

Our designers have gathered a collection of Lolita garments to help newbies see things up close, ask questions, and even try on an outfit! We'll have a backdrop for pictures, a place to hang out and ask questions, and a variety of sizes. Tickets are available online.

Manga Library BOOK SWAP

Friday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
MARRIOTT MARQUIS LEVEL 2 - 209

Join us Sunday, August 10 from 10 AM - 1 PM for our first-ever manga book swap! Bring your own manga and be ready to swap manga for manga (or manhwa for manhwa) from a curated table. It will be located outside the Manga Library in Room 209 of the WEWCC.

MAID CAFÉ

WEWCC ■ GRAND LOBBY SALON C

OTAKON MAID CAFÉ - Also rebranded as MOE BAY CAFÉ!
Find us in Salon C this year!

Wood you like to come meet s'more friends at the Maid Café - ahem, the Moe Bay Cafe? Buy tickets online through GROWTIX for a refreshing tree-t and snack break surrounded by maids and butlers. Grab a seat, relax, chat, and play games with our lovely and talented maids and butlers. We hope you'll stop by! If you've maid it this far, we applaud you for your camp-acity for puns and won't moss with you during your stay...unless you want us to, for the hill of it!

ONE FOR ALL:
This is a family friendly event. Tickets available online. Seating is limited - buy your ticket early to join in the fun! Queue forms 15 minutes before showtime.

MAID CAFÉ Meet and Greet

Take a hike and come camp out with the Maid Cafe on Sunday from 11am-1pm to meet our bear-y lovely maids and butlers, rest and watch dance performances, and overflow with cozy Moë vibes to wrap up your in-tents Otakon weekend experience. This will paw-sitively be the last chance fir 2025 Maid Cafe exclusive merchandise! FREE and open to all, but seating spaces are limited so arrive early before spots fill up!

RULES:

1. No flash photography or cellphones during the shows. Photo ops will be provided within the cafe; no photos permitted outside of official photo ops.
2. Don't offer or request personal/contact info.
3. Don't touch, harass, or stalk the performers.

OTA KARAOKE

MARRIOTT M3 ■ SHAW ROOM

Come decompress at Ota Karaoke, where you can hang out or perform. The stage will be open most of the convention for open-mic karaoke, and we'll have tables provided for mingling and eating.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday: 11:00am - 11:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 11:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am - 2:00pm

RULES:

1. **You may sign up to sing only one song at a time.** If you are currently signed up to sing a song, you may not sign up again until you've finished singing that song. This rule also pertains to singing with another person.
2. **We allow songs from anime, Japanese video games, and Japanese artists.** English versions of anime songs are fine.
3. **Song length limit is six (6) minutes.** It's okay to sing a longer song, but we'll need to stop playing it at the 6-minute mark.
4. **Two (2) people maximum on stage at once.**
5. **No jumping on or off the stage.**

HOW TO SIGN UP:

1. **Pick your song.** We have songbooks listing the karaoke tracks we have on-hand. You can sing other songs too, but you need to have it with you, or it needs to be on YouTube.
2. **Sign up to sing.** Sign up slips are at the front. We need:
   - Your name(s): Enter the name(s) of all people who will be singing the song.
   - Music source: "Otacafe" means that we have the song listed in the songbooks (Song will be a karaoke version).
   - Lyrics needed: Romaji means a phonetic guide for Japanese lyrics in roman letters. Kanji means Japanese characters.
   - Additional information: It's also helpful if you can provide additional information such as:
     - Do you want the short version of the song?
     - Do you want to sing to a karaoke version or vocal version?
3. **Take your number.** Take the number slip with the same number on it as the signup slip you signed up on.
4. **Wait to sing.** Enjoy the other performances as you wait to sing!
5. **Sing!** When we call your number/name, come up and perform! If you're providing a music playing device, please remove the cell phone case and turn the volume up to 100%. Also have it playing and paused at the beginning of the song.

MAKERSPACE

WEWCC ■ ROOM 145 A

Do you enjoy hands-on crafts but don't have much time in your busy convention weekend to attend a full-length workshop? Are you interested in expressing your love of anime, manga, or Asian culture through open-ended, self-guided projects?

The Otakon Makerspace is a space where people of all ages can build countless crafts using a wide variety of supplies – many of which have been generously donated, recycled, and repurposed. Choose from dozens of themed creative challenges in our handy guidebooks, or challenge yourself to experiment and create an original project from scratch! Make memories and work together with friends or fellow attendees to make a truly unique work of art! Take part in our weekend-long featured projects, from teru teru bozu to omamori charms, and create at your own pace in a relaxing environment filled with music and opportunities to display and photograph your work!

Returning this year is Makerspace at Night–an all-ages glow-in-the-dark space with special crafts and nighttime decor–and "Expert Hours," which are designated times where we host presenters with specialized crafting experience who are willing to share their skills and insight with Otakon attendees. Come be a part of a unique community of people, along with a hand-selected expert to help guide you through your creative endeavor! Look for these specialized programming slots within Makerspace during Otakon 2025!

SERVICE OPERATES CONTINUOUSLY:

Friday: 10:00am - 9:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am - 7:00pm
Makerspace at Night
7:00pm - 11:00pm
Sunday: 9:00am – 12:00pm

IDOL FESTIVALS

COSPLAYLIST IDOL FESTIVAL

FEATURED EVENTS, MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M2 BALLROOM

Friday 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Our idol festival merging fandom and idol culture that brings your favorite anime and virtual idols to life!

ANIBEAT IDOL FESTIVAL

FEATURED EVENTS, MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M2 BALLROOM

Saturday 4:00pm - 6:30pm

Our Flagship idol concert that started it all! Catch several talented independent kaigai idols take the stage along with this year's music guests Non Sweet and Babybeard!

NOW PRESENTING IDOL FESTIVAL

FEATURED EVENTS, MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M2 BALLROOM

Sunday 11:00am - 1:00pm

Say you "saw them first" as the next generation of kaigai idols make their debut!

IDOLSPACE STAGE

WEWCC - Level 2 - Room 206

Calling all idols fans, the Idolspace Stage is the place for you! Wotagei (cheer!) your heart out while you watch a variety of kaigai idols take the stage all weekend long!

OTA LOUNGE

CLUB OTA - MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M4 - LIBERTY

New for 2025! Jam out to a variety of independent bands, instrumentalists, singers, and DJs as they blend their love of music with Asian pop culture and hit our newest stage to share their talents!

COMMUNITY DANCE

CLUB OTA - MARRIOTT MARQUIS - M4 - LIBERTY

New for 2025! Club Ota is opening its doors for the dance community all weekend long! Join a variety of Random Play Dances and other Dance Gatherings and celebrate your love of Kpop, Jpop, anime music and more together!

HALL COSTUME CONTEST AND JUDGES

Chiki Cosplay has won many awards for her work, including several best-in-show titles for construction and masquerade skits, and is featured in publications such as Cosplay Realm Magazine, Craft Center Magazine, and 1000 Incredible Costume & Cosplay Ideas: A Showcase of Creative Characters from Anime, Manga, Video Games, Movies, Comics, and More. She has extensive experience as a craftsmanship judge and cosplay guest at a variety of conventions, and is the current cosplay director for NekoCon and Ibashocon. When away from conventions, she enjoys photography and escaping to her home in the Appalachian mountains.

WigWig Cosplay is an award-winning competitive cosplay duo that has cosplayed together since 2012. Based out of Minneapolis, Minnesota, WigTall and wigsmall are best known for their combination of leatherworking skills and entertaining performances. They have judged craftsmanship and performance for over 10 years, and in 2019 they were the USA representatives for the International Cosplay League where they won 1st place in the duo category. They have a passion for promoting and assisting cosplay contests nationwide and sharing their expertise with the community.

MASQUERADE JUDGES AND GUESTS

Kiwi Ninamori is a passionate cosplayer and craftsmanship judge from North Carolina. She began cosplaying in 2008, earned a bachelor's degree in Fashion Textiles, worked in teaching, and performed alterations for David's Bridal. Some of her favorite cosplays are Angrboda from God of War Ragnorak, MaoMao from Apothecary Diaries, and Korra from the Legend of Korra. Her award-winning cosplays are known for their attention to detail, unique fabric choices, hand embroidery, and colorful beadwork. We are so excited to have her judge for Otakon this year!

Hylian Cream is a Master level Craftsmanship & performance focused cosplayer from Southern California. With her competition partner & sister, she has won numerous awards including Best Masters at Anime Los Angeles & Best Craftsmanship at Anime Expo. When not sewing cosplays, she enjoys teaching sewing classes, making sewing content as a Janome Maker & filming sewing tutorials. She's excited to see what the talent the East Coast cosplay scene brings to the stage at Otakon!

Lady Ava Designs has been a self-taught seamstress and a multi-award winning cosplayer. for more than 20 years. From her roots in anime costuming with a focus on sewing, she expanded to 3D printing, laser cutting, and working with the Rebel Legion and Saber Guild charity organizations.

Over the last few years, she has been leaning towards designing her original fashion concepts based on her favorite fandoms and has been a finalist in the HerUniverse Fashion Show for three years. Currently, she is the cosplay department head for Colossalcon East and has been both a performance and craftsmanship judge up and down the East Coast. She is so excited to return to Otakon for the first time in over a decade!

MECHA KAIKAN

WEWCC GRAND LOBBY SALON A/B

Attention all Mecha Heads!

Otakon is proud to announce the opening of a brand new hub for all things mecha!

What is the Otakon Mecha Kaikan? Kaikan in Japanese translates to "hall", so simply put, the Mecha Kaikan is the Otakon Mecha Hall. The Otakon Mecha Kaikan will be an immersive and interactive mecha experience exclusive to Otakon. The Mecha Kaikan will feature mecha related panels, video and audio content integrated with free-range and expert led mecha modeling.

Catch all your favorite mecha related panels, videos and workshops in one location. Have a kit to build? Bring it along and build it in our build section while watching the action up on stage. Want to just zone out and build? Try out our new Silent Disco hardware and build your kit while listening to curated mecha related soundtracks and anisong.

PANELS AND VIDEOS
Be sure to check out the Otakon Schedule for the full lineup of curated mecha panels and video screenings

MODEL BUILDING AND WORKSHOPS
You are welcome to bring any model you have purchased in the Dealer's Room or elsewhere and build it in the build area of the Mecha Kaikan. Additionally, we are excited to be partnering with Gundam Planet, who will be offering kits and tools for sale in the Mecha Kaikan as well. Please pay attention to the marked areas indicating the free build space vs. the space reserved for workshops.

We will be offering two guided workshops, one on Friday and one on Saturday, hosted by Gundam Planet. There will be a small fee to participate in these workshops. The fee will include all kits, tools and professional guidance during the workshop. Pre-registration through leap is required for these workshops.

Note: Basic tools (side nippers, sanding sticks, etc.) will be available for use at each table. If you choose to bring your own tools, you do so at your own risk as everyone must go through security and safety screening and any tools are likely to be detected and potentially confiscated.

SILENT DISCO
If you don't want to watch the panel or video going on, and just want to zone out and build your kit, please check out our new silent disco hardware. The silent disco hardware is provided free of charge, but is limited in quantity.

To check out silent disco hardware:

Come to the Mecha Kaikan ops table
Please have a photo ID available
We will issue you a set of headphones and hold on to your ID
When you are done, return the headphones and make sure to retrieve your ID

オタコン：メカ会館
MECHA KAIKAN

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday: 8:00am - 2:00am
Saturday: 8:00am - 2:00am
Sunday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

VIDEO GAMING

WEWCC HALL D/E

Gaming at Otakon is huge! If you thought our Video Gaming Hall in previous years was good, well you're in for a treat since we have expanded it even more! We're filling an entire hall of the convention center with video games and arcade machines from all eras, classics you remember, current games you love, plenty of games straight from Japan, and games by Indie Developers! Show off your skills and compete against your fellow con goers in casual play or enter one of our tournaments. We will also have setups of Rock Band and Just Dance to rock out and show us your best dance moves! Finally, VR has entered the hall too, so enjoy that virtual reality!

ARCADE

We will have trucks and trucks of arcade machines from many of our partners at Otakon! Come check out the Japanese arcade games on freeplay. We also have a wide selection of music rhythm games to pick from. Additionally, check out the fighting games, racing games, classic games, and even pinball machines that we have!

INDIE ROW

We will have a dedicated area in front for Indie Game developers to showcase their latest work. Come by the area, try their games and give them your support. There will be a variety of unique single and multiplayer games for you to try.

HANDHELD AREA

Did you bring any handheld console like a Switch or Steam Deck? If so, come play and meet other fellow players in our Handheld Area. You can either relax and play your one-player game, or go play with your fellow attendees on some multiplayer battles and races. We'll have a bunch of tables and chairs for you to sit, along with some surge protectors set up for you to charge up your handheld device!

GENERAL HALL RULES

Be polite and please remember:

- No Fighting
- No Abusive Behavior
- Be sure to eat/drink during the convention, but...
  - Do not eat/drink near any TVs or consoles
- Be hygienic (shower and use deodorant)
- Do not touch the consoles
- Do not exit out a game or go into the main menu screen
- Do not steal
- Do not to break or mistreat any of the gaming equipment
- Do not leave your personal belongings unattended
  - Staff are not responsible for your belongings

If there is a line waiting to play, please limit your play time to the following:

Single Player Game:

1 Life Set *or* 3 Songs *or* 30 minutes, whichever is shortest.

Multiplayer Games:

Fighters

- Winner stays.
- All other players MUST give up their controller to the next player in line. If there are not enough new players to fill up the empty seats, then the Second (and possibly Third) placed player(s) may remain seated.

Rock Band/Dance Central

- A playgroup may only play ONE (1) song. After the song is finished they MUST offer their spot to the next person in line.
- If no one wants to play your particular instrument, you may continue playing.

Any Other Music Game

- A playgroup may play one game, comprised of TWO (2) to THREE (3) songs depending on the game. After the game is finished they MUST offer their spot to the next person in line.

By entering the Otakon Video Game Room you acknowledge the above rules and agree to adhere to them. Breaking any rule may result in you being asked to leave the Video Game Room or having your badge revoked.

Please talk to a Video Game Room Staffer if:

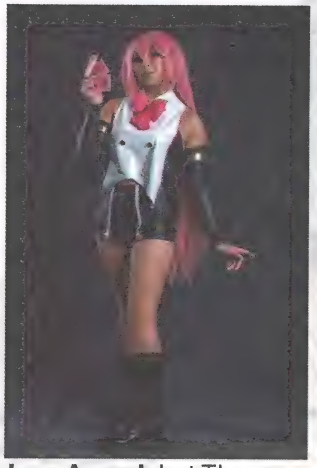
- a piece of equipment is not working properly so that it can be fixed/replaced with a working one as soon as possible.
- you would like to switch out a game and there is an open set-up. Please be aware that we will not allow personal games to be played and that we cannot comply with all requests.
- you notice someone is breaking any of the above rules so that corrective action can be taken.

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

Friday: 10:00am - 1:00am
Saturday: 10:00am - 1:00am
Sunday: 10:00m - 3:00pm

MASQUERADE 2024 Winners

Best In Show: Waifu Wars, Something Extra Cringe



Joan Award: Let The Cards Reveal Your Fate! Ambroisa Muse (Lune)

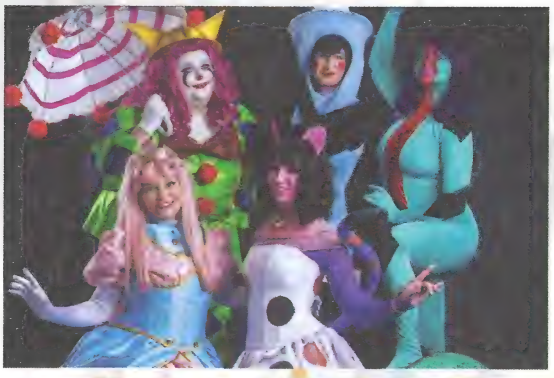
MC Award: The ICP's Guide to Bounty Hunting, The Unworthy Stilletos

Judge's Award & Best Intermediate: Illuminating the Stage, Remnant Alley

Youth & Head Award: Chopper's Desperate attempt: The Third Rumble Ball, The Tony Tony Choppers

Best Beginner: Pure Heart, MoonGlade Shika

Judges Award: Going for Gold, Crown of Stars Cosplay



Best Advanced: Monsters Of The Week Anon, The Millennial Moonies

Judge's Award: Mashle: Magic and... Baton Twirling? Sun Kissed Cosplays

Staff Award: Airbending Ballet, Mina Moo Cosplay

Meet BADA OTAKON'S NEW FRIEND FROM KOREA!

AUGUST, 2025 - A PAPER AIRPLANE FROM KOREA FLEW OVER MOUNTAINS AND CROSSED AN OCEAN TO FINALLY ARRIVE IN THE UNITED STATES.
SHWOOP~
OTAKON
What's this!??
HEYA, OTAKON FRIENDS! I FLEW HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD FROM KOREA TO MEET YA ALL.
Wow!!
POOF
WHO ARE YOU?
DID IT TALK?
HEY, A MAGIC KITTY!
I KNOW I LOOK CUTE, BUT I'M OLDER THAN I LOOK. I FLEW OVER TO CHECK OUT OTAKON!
BOOM
A MAGIC WHAT?
WHOA!
I AM SANSHIN, A GUARDIAN GOD OF KOREAN MOUNTAINS AND... WAIT... LET ME TRANSFORM FIRST...
DOSUL GENIUS BAEKHO (WHITE TIGER) BADA AT YOUR SERVICE!
I HAVE STUDIED A LOT OF MANHWA AND ANIMATION...
YUM
YUM
TRIED MANY FOODS AS A MUKBANG STREAMER...
GROW~
AND USE MY ATHLETIC SKILLS AND TIGER VOCALS IN MY IDOL GROUP ANIMALZ.
GROW~
SO BE SURE TO FOLLOW ME AROUND OTAKON AS I SHARE MY ADVENTURES WITH YOU ALL!
Kimchi
SNAP!!
PLEASE SHOW LOTS OF LOVE AND SUPPORT FOR <BADA>, REPRESENTING KOREA AT OTAKON 2025!

FASHION GUESTS

- **AdaNous** is a brand launched by solo idol Tenohira El based on the concept of "living and charming in your own way." The brand offers an evolving aesthetic of Japanese and Western fusion in a mode-mix style.
- **DimMoire** is a brand designed by Colomo with a concept of "clothes that'll make you want to show off." With monotones as the underlying theme, DimMoire suggests an original outlook of "applying gothic elements to everyday life."
- **DustDevil** is designed by Korean influencer Skull, who boasts over 400,000 followers. Known for her unique fashion sense that defies trends and her somewhat two-dimensional visual style, Skull has garnered fans throughout the world.
- **Gamchu** is a brand envisioned by designer Ponkotsu Ria. It is a proud representation of the yami-kawaii style, which blends both darkness and cuteness. Gamchu is a brand for everyone, with versatile designs unrestrained by the limits of gender.
- **Grrr the Lipper** is the highly anticipated fashion brand produced by Hikari Shiina. Known for her distinctive personal style, influential modeling work, and shockingly aggressive performances, she is using the launch of her new brand to embrace a fresh facet of her creativity.
- **REFLEM** is more than Darkness: it is a MAD aesthetic with industrial and bold designs. REFLEM is a brand that goes beyond the limits of gender and continues to send out artful messages from its endlessly realistic designs.
- **TRAVAS TOKYO** is a brand featuring graphic art that expresses a unique aesthetic, giving a glimpse of a sadism within cute designs. This new sensation is a trend from Tokyo that mixes opposing elements and incorporates them into streetwear.

ACRO TOKYO

ACRO TOKYO is a leading producer of Japanese Harajuku and street fashion. With the opening of their store in Harajuku's iconic Laforet department store and the launch of their global webstore in 2023, ACRO TOKYO has ushered in a new wave of Japanese street fashion. They now design, produce, and feature original, cutting-edge brands like AdaNous, DimMoire, DustDevil, Gamchu, and Grrr the Lipper through partnerships with alternative style influencers in Japan and South Korea. ACRO TOKYO's appearance at Otakon marks their official United States debut!

METAMORPHOSE

METAMORPHOSE is for everyone who wants to become even cuter and more beautiful; those who want to transform and express themselves in various ways - sometimes prettily, sometimes nobly, sometimes elegantly. As the name Metamorphose evokes the image of an angel's descent, transformation, change, and girlhood, we offer clothes that can transform anyone as they like, sometimes cute, sometimes gorgeous, and sometimes cool, while valuing the girlishness that is typical of lolita fashion. Metamorphose is for those seeking their own lolita fashion style without being bound by genres.

COSPLAY RESCUE

Falling apart at the seams? Cosplay Rescue is ready and waiting in room 101 for all* your repair needs.

We are equipped with privacy curtains for sensitive repairs. As always, our services are free of charge.**

New for 2025, we have a small selection of self-repair items, including small sewing kits, a variety of tapes, safety pins, bobby pins, and fashion tape.

Friday & Saturday: 9:30am-8:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am-2:00pm

**This may include, but is not limited to, hot glue failure, worbla reshaping, makeup smudges, wig wandering, torn seams, torn fabric, snapped staffs, acts of Cthulhu, and logistical restructuring of cosplay that defy the laws of physics and fabric.*

***All repairs done at Cosplay Rescue must be done by staff, please do not ask if you can borrow equipment, tools, etc and do it yourself.*

GUESTS

HIROSHI KAMIYA

Since his debut in 1994, he has appeared in many notable works. He won the "Most Voted Award" at the Seiyu Awards five years in a row, earning a place in the Hall of Fame. In 2009, he also began his music career. In TOUGEN ANKI, premiering July 2025, he voices Naito Mudano, the protagonist's instructor. Notable roles: Trafalgar Law (ONE PIECE), Levi (Attack on Titan), Choromatsu (Mr. Osomatsu), Yato (Noragami), Ataru Moroboshi (URUSEI YATSURA)

KOUTARO NISHIYAMA

Since Koutaro Nishimaya's debut, he has appeared in numerous titles across various media. In 2018, he won the Best New Actor Award at the 12th Seiyu Awards. In 2020, he made his debut as an artist and has been actively pursuing his music career. In TOUGEN ANKI, set to premiere in July 2025, he will play Jin Kougasaki, a classmate of the protagonist.

GUESTS

Allegra Clark

Allegra Clark is an actor and voiceover artist best known for her video game roles, most notably as Bloodhound in Apex Legends, Acheron in Honkai Star Rail, and Beidou in Genshin Impact. Her voice can also be heard across anime in roles such as Maki and Miwa in Jujutsu Kaisen, Mother Spider Demon and Young Tanjiro in Demon Slayer, and Princess Kakyuu in Sailor Moon.

Christina Kelly

Christina Kelly is an American actress and voice actress for Crunchyroll and Sentai Filmworks with nominations from Behind the Voice Actors for Breakthrough Voice Actress in 2016 and 2017 and Best Supporting Role for her work in Himouto Umaru-Chan. Some of her most notable roles include Enchantress in Suicide Squad Isekai, Ulti in One Piece, and Alpha in The Eminence in Shadow.

Xanthe Huynh

Xanthe Huynh is a Los Angeles-based voice actor known for their roles across video games and anime. Some of their most notable roles include Haru Okumura in Persona 5, Marianne Von Edmund in Fire Emblem: Three Houses, Pela in Honkai Star Rail, Alluka in Hunter x Hunter, Takina in Lycoris Recoil, Sawako Kuronuma in Kimi ni Todoke, and Ui in K-On!

Kari Wahlgren

Kari Wahlgren has voiced hundreds of characters across anime, animation, and video games. Some of her most notable roles throughout these formats include Saber in Fate Zero and Fate Stay Night, Dee Eye El in Sword Art Online, Tayuya in Naruto, Kitana and Mileena in Mortal Kombat 11 and 1, Tigress in Kung Fu Panda: Legends of Awesomeness, and Jessica, Rick's Spaceship, and Diane in Rick and Morty.

Yutaro Ito

Yutaro Ito is a production manager at A-1 Pictures whose first project in the role was Makeine: Too Many Losing Heroines! He also worked as a production coordinator for series such as Warlords of Sigrdrifa and Kaguya-sama: Love Is War and a production manager for the music video "ChroNoir Episode.0."

Shotaro Kitamura

Shotaro Kitamura is a Japanese anime director at A-1 Pictures who made his series directorial debut with Makeine: Too Many Losing Heroines! He was also involved in the production of other series such as Cardfight! Vanguard, Visual Prison, and Kaguya-sama: Love Is War as a storyboarder and episode director.

Nobutoshi Canna

Nobutoshi Canna has used his decades-long career to bring some of anime's most iconic characters to life, including Guts in Berserk, Lancer in Fate/stay night, Kabuto in Naruto, and Basara Nekki in Macross 7. Outside of television, he worked on dozens of video games and voiced Japanese dubs for Hollywood blockbusters such as The Martian, Aliens, and Gladiator.

Ryoko Shiraishi

Ryoko Shiraishi is well known for her versatile performances across anime, video games, and film. Her characteristic husky voice is behind popular roles such as Hayate in Hayate the Combat Butler, Hime Onizuka in Sket Dance, Devola and Popola in Nier: Automata, and can be heard in the Japanese dubs for films such as Oppenheimer, Uncharted, and Jumanji.

GUESTS

Taishi Murata

Taishi Murata is a Japanese voice actor with Across Entertainment, voicing anime series characters such as Artemis in Sailor Moon Eternal and Sailor Moon Cosmos, Jiruo in Made In Abyss, Norba Shino in Mobile Suit Gundam: Iron-Blooded Orphans, Masaru Ebumi in ALL OUT!!, and Pieyon in Oshi no Ko. He also voiced video game characters such as Toshiro Goto in Touken Ranbu and Go Hayami in I-Chu.

Ryoya Arisawa

Ryoya Arisawa is a producer at Bandai Namco Filmworks, best known as the producer for popular anime series titles such as Kowloon Generic Romance, Princess Principal, The Magnificent Kotobuki, and Blue Lock. His work extends beyond anime in his role as a producer and story plan creator for the Japanese drama SEDAI WARS.

Sayumi Suzushiro

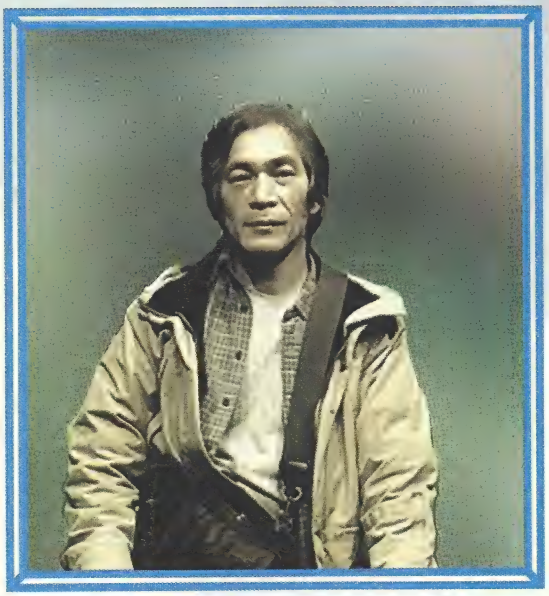
Sayumi Suzushiro is a voice actor currently affiliated with ARTSVISION. Born in Kanagawa Prefecture, she voiced her first main role in 2018 as Akira Ono in Hi Score Girl. Her recent career includes roles such as Xiaohei in Kowloon Generic Romance, Nijika Ijichi in Bocchi the Rock!, Lawine in Frieren: Beyond Journey's End, and Ayako in The Elusive Samurai.

Katsuyuki Konishi

Katsuyuki Konishi has brought anime and video game characters to life with his voice acting roles since his debut in 1997, and he received the Best Supporting Actor award at the 9th Annual Seiyu Awards in 2015. Some of his most iconic roles include Tengen Uzui in Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba, Kamina in Gurren Lagann, and Tanktop Master in One Punch Man.

Kanako Ayano

Kanako Ayano is an anime producer at Furyu Pictures, recently producing the new series The Dark History of the Reincarnated Villainess. She is also known for her work on Laid-Back Camp Movie, Is It Wrong to Pick Up Girls in a Dungeon: Arrow of the Orion, and Kinokoinu.



Hiroaki Sakurai

Hiroaki Sakurai is a freelance scriptwriter and episode director who began his career with titles like Cyber Team in Akihabara:The Movie and UFO Baby. He also worked on series such as The Disastrous Life of Saiki K, The Demon Girl Next Door, and Mewkledreamy. His most recent project is the upcoming series The Dark History of the Reincarnated Villainess.

Yuki Mukai

Yuki Mukai is a Japanese animation producer at Maho Film. He is the animation producer for many popular titles including Blue Miburo, I'm Standing on a Million Lives, By the Grace of the Gods, In the Land of Leadale, I'm the Villainess, So I'm Taming the Final Boss, A Playthrough of a Certain Dude's VRMMO Life, and I'll Become a Villainess Who Goes Down in History.

Ryota Takeuchi

Ryota Takeuchi is a Japanese voice actor affiliated with Aoni Production. He voices a wide range of characters but is best known for Kamo Serizawa in Blue Miburo, Wakatoshi Ushijima in Haikyu!!, Elias Ainsworth in The Ancient Magus' Bride, Darui in Naruto, Charlotte Bavarois in One Piece, Kenji Tsuragamae in My Hero Academia, and Thomas in Attack on Titan.

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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

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GUESTS

Ena Hamabe

Ena Hamabe is a producer affiliated with the Japanese animation planning and production company, Infinite. She has been involved in a range of projects across genres such as The Devil is a Part-Timer!!, The Aquatope on White Sand, and Yuri Is My Job! More recently, she took on the challenge of producing the anime adaptation of This Monster Wants to Eat Me.

Takumi Kamemaru

Takumi Kamemaru is a manga editor with KADOKAWA. Since its inception, he has been incredibly involved in the creation of This Monster Wants to Eat Me, which follows the beautiful yet heart-wrenching tale of a girl and a monster; it has been serialized in Dengeki Maoh and published by KADOKAWA.

Sai Naekawa

Sai Naekawa is a mangaka, or manga artist, from the Ehime Prefecture of Japan. She is best known for her work on This Monster Wants to Eat Me, which will be adapted into an anime series in October of 2025 and was selected for the Unique Story/Art category of the You Should Read This Manga 2025 discovery list.

Miyuri Shimabukuro

Miyuri Shimabukuro is a voice actress from Okinawa Prefecture, best known for her roles as Yunna Yunohara in Yunna and the Haunted Hot Spring, Elmerulia Frixell in Atelier Lulua: The Scion of Arland, Inca Kasugatani in Fire Force, and Carole in Carole and Tuesday. Recently, she voiced Otoha Kurogane in Rock Is a Lady's Modesty, which aired in April of 2025.

HAENULI

An illustrator and fashion designer most well known for Lolita fashion brand HAENULI. Her work "Their Story - The Story You Don't Know" sends the message of finding comfort during the time of despair and sadness that many can relate to.

Hidetake Nishigaya

Nishigaya is an anime producer at TBS Television who worked on Rock Is a Lady's Modesty. He is known for his work on shows such as The Idaten Deities Know Only Peace, Mononogatari, and Handyman Saito in Another World. Outside of anime, he worked on the overseas release of video games related to Saint Seiya, Bleach, and Naruto.

Big Ocean

Big Ocean is a ground-breaking K-pop group that is redefining the global music scene with their powerful performances, emotional depth, and bold artistry. Debuting in 2024 under Parastar Entertainment, the trio made headlines as the first K-pop group composed entirely of hearing impaired members, breaking barriers and reshaping perceptions of what it means to be an idol.

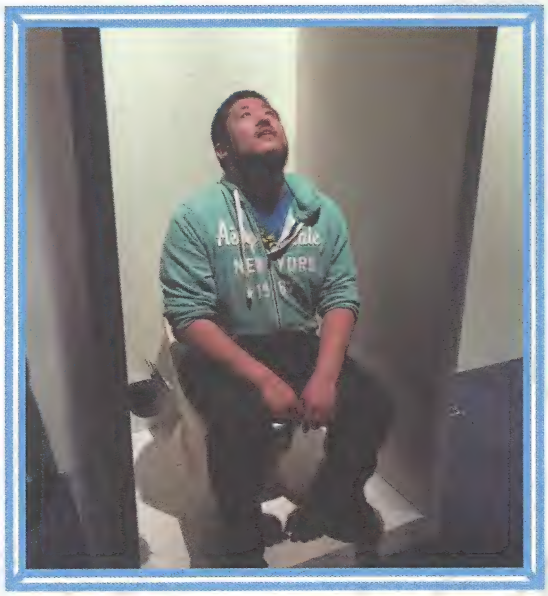
Shinya Watada

Watada is an animation director who worked on Rock Is a Lady's Modesty that aired in April of 2025. He works as an episode director for many series, but he made his debut with Mobile Suit Gundam AGE: Memory of Eden. Since then, he has worked as a director for series such as Gundam Build Fighters Try, Aikatsu Stars! The Movie, and Idolmaster: Million Live!

GUESTS

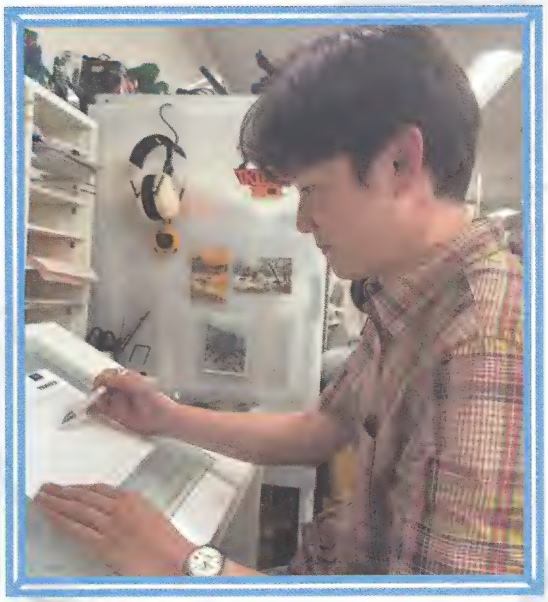
Hiroshi Nishikiori

Hiroshi Nishikiori is an acclaimed freelance animation director and storyboard artist, with experience at Takahashi Production and Nippon Animation. He has led many popular anime projects across television and film including Angelic Layer, Azumanga Daioh, Ghost Slayers Ayashi, Trinity Seven, Magic Tree House, and A Certain Magical Index: The Miracle of Endymion.



Yoshihiro Watanabe

Yoshihiro Watanabe is a producer at Studio Orange who began his career working under Masao Maruyama at Madhouse USA in Los Angeles. He is currently working on Trigun Stargaze, Beastars Final Season Part 2, and Leviathan, but is known for producing other global titles such as Trigun Stampede, Godzilla Singular Point, and League of Legends: New Journey.



Hiroki Arai

Arai is an animator affiliated with Studio Trigger since 2015. His latest work is New Panty & Stocking with Garterbelt, but he is also known for his animation work on Ninja Slayer from Animation, Space Patrol Luluco, Kiznaiver, Little Witch Academia, Darling in the Franxx, SSSS.GRIDMAN, Promare, SSSS.DYNAZENON, Cyberpunk: Edgerunners, Gridman Universe, and Dungeon Meshi.

SUSHiO

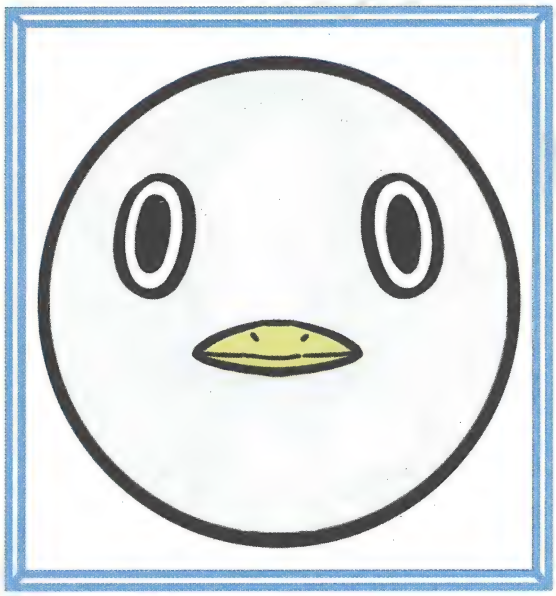
Sushio is an animator who works as a character designer and animation director with Studio Trigger, known for works such as Gurren Lagann, Kill la Kill, and Promare. In recent years, he contributed as an original artist to Cyberpunk: Edgerunners and Dungeon Meshi. His expression expands outside of anime through his commissioned illustrations for artists such as Momoiro Clover Z, BUMP OF CHICKEN, and BiSH.

Hiromi Wakabayashi

Hiromi Wakabayashi is a creative producer, planner, and scriptwriter with Trigger Studios, but previously worked as a design producer for Gurren Lagann. He is best known for his work as Trigger's creative director and music editor for titles such as Kill la Kill, Promare, and Cyberpunk: Edgerunners. Currently, he is the head of story and co-director for New Panty & Stocking with Garterbelt.

Takibi Amamori

Takibi Amamori is a Japanese novelist from Toyohashi City in Aichi Prefecture. He won the Gagaga Prize at the 15th Shogakukan Light Novel Awards in 2020 for his submission, Am I Just a Random Mob Character Standing Next to the Losing Heroine in the Final Episode? In 2021, he made his debut with a retitled version of the same novel, now Too Many Losing Heroines!



Imigimuru

Imigimuru is a Japanese manga artist and illustrator from Hyogo Prefecture who is best known as the creator of hit romantic comedy series This Art Club Has a Problem! He also worked as the illustrator for a variety of other anime and video game projects including Lycoris Recoil, Fate/Grand Order, and Too Many Losing Heroines!

Kentaro Iwaasa

Kentaro Iwaasa is the deputy editor-in-chief of Shogakukan's Gagaga Bunko department. He has worked with titles such as A Salad Bowl of Eccentrics, Bottom-tier Character Tomozaki, Chitose-kun Is in the Ramune Bottle, Too Many Losing Heroines!, and he has been the editor in charge of novelist Yomi Hirasaka's work for over a decade.

GUESTS

Chika Mizube

Chika Mizube is a Japanese manga artist that started the serialization of the ongoing series Pass the Monster Meat, Milady! (original work by Kanata Hoshi) in March of 2021 with an anime adaptation set to air in October of 2025. In April of 2022, she began the serialization of another series, The Fiancée of the Minazuki Family, simultaneously working on both projects.

Kanna Nakamura

Kanna Nakamura is a Japanese voice actress, debuting her first main heroine role in When Will Ayumu Make His Move? She is best known for her roles as Ann in The Seven Deadly Sins: Four Knights of the Apocalypse, Alicia Williams in I'll Become a Villainess Who Goes Down in History, and an upcoming role as Merufiera Māsharureido in Pass the Monster Meat, Milady!

Ayana Taketasu

Ayana Taketasu is a voice actress affiliated with Ancheri, best known for her roles in popular series such as Azusa Nakano in K-On!, Suguha Kirigaya/Leafa in Sword Art Online, Aura in Frieren: Beyond Journey's End, and Nino Nakano in The Quintessential Quintuplets. She has also found success in the music industry as a singer, releasing 5 albums and 12 singles.

Lim Duckyoung

Lim Duckyoung is a manhwaga, educator, and the founder of FlyingToon Studio. He is the creative mind behind My Boss is an Otaku, Mission Kitman, The Oddball Family, and Kiki the Little Vampire. He is also the creator of Toontoy, Korea's first platform-based art figures inspired by comics that provides an interactive art experience.

Jong Hoon Chae

Jong Hoon Chae is a veteran of the Korean music industry, specializing in publishing, master recording, and licensing. He is the founder of Plum Tree Songs, which is a music publishing company focused on K-pop with releases from SUHO of EXO, CHUNG HA, Key Of SHINee, and CRAVITY. His previous projects include IVE, NCT 127, BTS, IU, and Red Velvet.

CHRIS

An illustrator and mangaka working with focus in Japan, CHRIS is best known for the 2013 main illustration for 「Hatsune Miku "Magical Mirai"」 and 「SNOW MIKU」. CHRIS' work can be found in various formats including illustrations, designs, Nendoroids, manga and MV throughout different fandoms to name a few.

Sarah Myer

Sarah Myer (they/them) is an Eisner-nominated comic artist, writer, and colorist best known for their graphic memoir Monstrous: A Transracial Adoption Story and their work illustrating Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Saturday Morning Adventures. Sarah's work has been published by Macmillan's First Second Books, IDW Publishing, Dynamite Comics, VIZ Media, Nickelodeon, Capcom, and Disney.

Moon Inho

Moon Inho has been drawing children's manhwa for the past 20 years. His work in children's educational manhwa includes titles such as Hanja Sohwansa Jaryung, Tales Runner Suhak King Wang Zzang, Iyagi Mabubjunsa series, and Kids Science Magazine: Dong-a Oz's Alchemist series. He currently works at HM Cooperative, Korea's first manhwa social enterprise, to promote regional revitalization through manhwa.

GUESTS

Kohei

Kohei is an IFA United Nations international ambassador singer who performs at anime conventions, Japanese festivals, and Asian festivals in the United States. Kohei has been the official MC at New York's Japan Fes since 2017 and at the Houston Japan Festival in 2018, 2019, 2023, and 2024. He also recorded a song for Aniplex Japan that was featured in the anime Tokyo 24th Ward.

Hidenori Matsubara

Hidenori Matsubara is an animator, character designer, and illustrator currently affiliated with Studio Khara. He has served as character designer and animation director for titles such as Sakura Wars, Ah! My Goddess, In This Corner of the World, and In This Corner (and Other Corners), and contributed in various roles to many other titles, including 2025's Mobile Suit Gundam GQuuuuuuX.

Kurata Minoji

Kurata Minoji is a manga artist who made her debut in 2010 with Daily Life of Scholar Shinjiro Katsuragi. She is best known for her work on The Apothecary Diaries Maomao's Notes from the Inner Palace, which has been serialized since 2017. She is also an enthusiastic video gamer, leading to her involvement in the manga adaptation of Assassin's Creed Chronicles: China.

Megumi Sakurai

Megumi Sakurai was born into a family that owned a kimono shop but truly began her kimono design career while studying Nagoya Yuzen dyeing as an apprentice for a traditional craftsperson in Nagoya. She honed her skills through custom orders at her family's shop and participation in national exhibitions, earning her national certification as a traditional craftsperson in 2017.

Taketeru Sunamori

Taketeru Sunamori is a Japanese author and composer best known for his musical compositions in Square Enix's Grimms Notes and his role as leader and founder of Mirai Kodai Orchestra. His representative song, "Wasureji no Kotonoha," became virally popular after its release with over 100 million plays. He primarily composes for video games but also works as a light novelist, touring DJ, and J-pop expert.

Katsura Sunshine

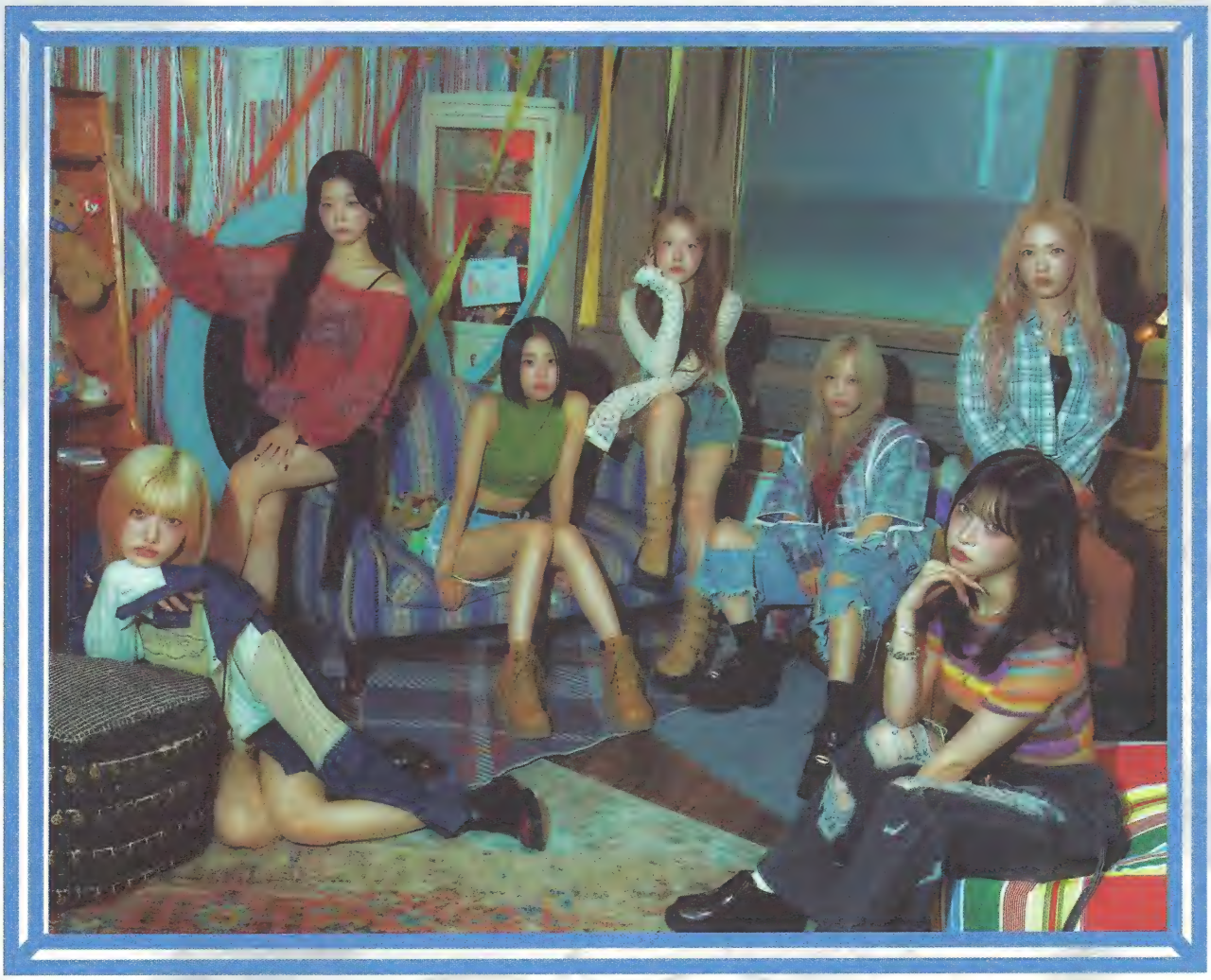
Katsura Sunshine is the world's only professional Rakugo storyteller performing entirely in English. Trained in Osaka under legendary master Katsura Bunshi VI, Sunshine has brought this 400-year-old form of Japanese comic storytelling to locations all over the world. His shows are funny, fast-paced, and offer a unique chance to discover Rakugo comedy.

Sora Tokui

Sora Tokui is a voice actress, manga artist, and VTuber. In games and anime, she is known for voicing Hook in Honkai Star Rail, Nero Yuzurizaki in Tantei Opera Milky Holmes, and Nico Yazawa from Love Live!, where she released multiple character songs as part of her work on the series. As a manga artist, she wrote Mahou Shoujo Jitaku-chan and Makeruna!! Aku no Gundan!

Shuichiro Umeda

Shuichiro Umeda is a voice actor affiliated with KEN PRODUCTION who is best known for voicing Chirinu Nio in Blue Miburo, Kazuhiko Nukumizu in Too Many Losing Heroines!, and Koichi Himawari in My Hero Academia: Vigilantes. In the summer 2025 season, he is set to voice Hikaru in The Summer Hikaru Died and Naoto Watari in Watari-kun's ****** Is About to Collapse.



Billlie

Debuting in November 2021, Billlie has achieved great success in the global music industry with songs such as "RING ma Bell (what a wonderful world)," "GingaMingaYo (the strange world)," "BYOB (bring your own best friend)," and "remembrance candy." Billlie ranked in the US Billboard's 25 Best K-Pop Songs of 2022 and 25 Best K-Pop albums of 2023, and their 2024 mini-album, "Of All We Have Lost," ranked in the global chart and entered the Top 10 on the iTunes K-pop album chart in the US, UK, Japan, and more.

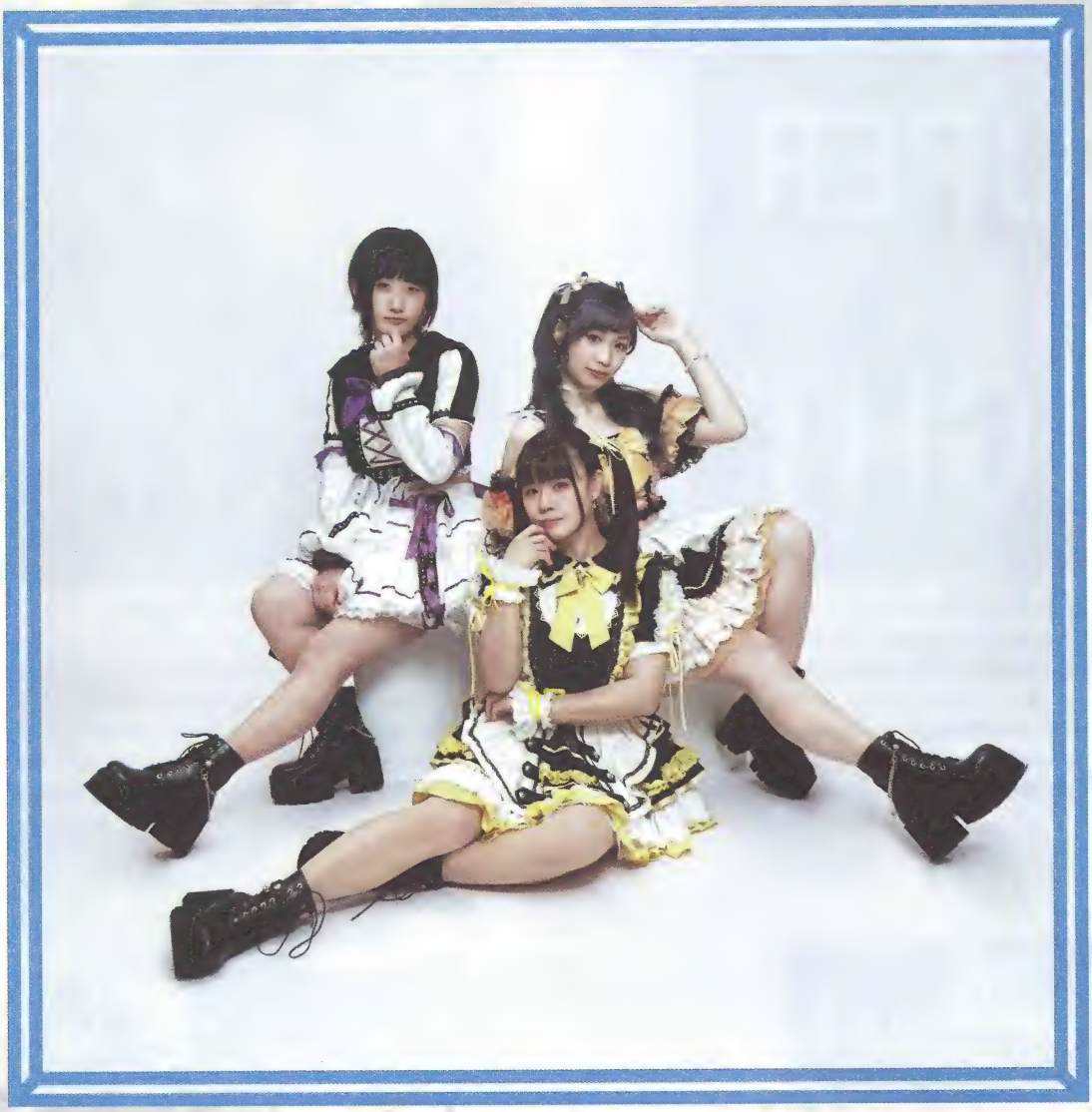
MindaRyn

MindaRyn is a Thai-born J-pop singer who gained international recognition for her powerful vocals and unique blend of J-pop and heartfelt anime storytelling. She started her career by posting anime song covers on YouTube and made her official debut in 2020 with "BLUE ROSE knows," the ending theme for *By the Grace of the Gods*. She is the rising star of the anisong scene, with her clear, emotive vocals in the theme songs for titles like *That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime* and *Arifureta*.

MUSIC GUESTS

BABYBEARD

BABYBEARD is Japan's wildest pop-metal trio, blending kawaii charm with headbanging power. Led by Aussie pro-wrestler and metal vocalist Ladybeard, alongside Japanese pop idols, the group delivers high-energy performances in a colorful collision of extremes—cute meets chaos, pop meets metal. Created by the hitmakers behind "Nippon Manju," their debut tracks "NIPPON KARA KONNICHIWA" and "PIENNIZER" are infectious anthems of positivity and power. BABYBEARD isn't just a band; it's a mission to make the world smile, dance, and SCREAM!



Non Sweet

Non Sweet is a J-pop music group, local to Vancouver, that aims to empower, inspire, and bring joy to people all over the world through an engaging musical experience. Heavily influenced by Japanese idol culture, all of their original music is crafted in collaboration with their sound producer in Japan, while the members take the creative lead on lyrics, choreography, and concept for each release. Non Sweet has graced the stages of music festivals and cultural events across Canada, the US, and Japan, including Khatsahlano Street Party, Sakura Days Japan Fair, and Anime Expo.

FEATURED PRESENTERS

Super Art Fight

A perennial favorite at Otakon, this recurring team of Artists bills themselves as "The Greatest Live Art Competition in the Known Universe" and that's not hyperbole! Their presentations combine live art with bombastic personalities akin to pro wrestling, but the outcomes are never fixed!

The Cosplayin' Yogis

The Cosplayin' Yogis' mission is to bring yoga to weebs and geeks of all shapes and sizes while teaching how yoga, movement, breath, and meditation are important to self-care and well-being. We believe yoga is accessible for ALL bodies and ages and strive to use cosplay to make classes engaging, educational, and fun!

Beltway Burlesque

Bringing a mix of anime and video game cosplayers, this "nerdlesque" show never disappoints! The local team performs one time on Saturday night in Main Events. Just be sure to have your 18+ wristband!

Nerds Know

Nerds Know is the premiere entertainment panel group of South Florida. This group of nerds has extensive knowledge in pretty much all things nerdy: Disney, Anime, Sci-Fi, Comics, Pop Culture, Cosplay and more! Chances are that our programs will have you shaking your head in disbelief or laughing hysterically in your seat!

Shoestring Scientists

Shoestring Scientists is a tight-knit group of anime fans and hobbyists touring the US, hosting workshops and panels. Originating from a shared love for Japanese culture, our mission is to educate and inspire. Through interactive sessions and hands-on activities, we bring cosplay, manga, and anime fandom to life, catering to all levels of interest.

FEATURED PRESENTERS

The Magic of Cosplay Exhibit

DizzyLizzy is bringing her "Magic of Cosplay Exhibit" to Otakon. The exhibit will give you a chance to get up close and personal with a number of costume creations, but please, No Touching. We hope the exhibit will inspire you to get creative! Please visit the Artist Alley to view the exhibit!

Candiiland Photo Locations

A place where you can transport yourself into new realms from backdrop to backdrop.

Otakon has teamed up with Candiiland to bring several cosplay sets for pictures! We will have the following in these locations all weekend. Each set will have different hours based on the locations.

CUT/SEW

Need some hands on help? We offer beginner-friendly sewing and cosplay classes at conventions & pop up events around the country. Learn skills, make new friends, and come hang out with the CUT/SEW team while we share our knowledge and skills.

Aniwaza

Aniwaza is a ten person strong wotagei team based in the United States with members spanning across the country. Their goal is to spread a love of idol culture and wotagei across the globe in a fun and accessible way, through panels, special projects, performances and workshops.

Studio Fluff

Founded in the summer of 2021, Studio Fluff is a small business specializing in handmade plushies. This marks Studio Fluff's second year presenting at the convention, where they'll be teaching the basics of plush making. Join the workshop and make a plushie of your own!

GR YL **Mt Vernon Sq**
7th St–Convention Center

M METRO

7TH STREET

EXIT ONLY

144 CUT/SEW COSPLAY STUDIOS
143 WORKSHOP 1
142/141
150 WORKSHOP 3 (DANCE FLOOR)
149 MA-CHAN
147B VIDEO 3
147A VIDEO 2
145B VIDEO 1
145A MAKER SPACE
140 WORKSHOP 2
148
151 PANEL 5
153 (GEEK HOME VIDEO MUSEUM)
152A PANEL 6
154 PROGRAMMING OPS
146C PANEL 4
146B PANEL 3
146A PANEL 2
156 KIMONO DISPLAY
152B PANEL 7
155
160
159 WALL SCROLL CONTEST
158
157
UP TO L STREET BRIDGE
UP TO HALL E
DOWN TO EXHIBIT HALLS
THIS IS THE MIDDLE BUILDING

L STREET

EXIT ONLY

NO BADGE

103 SALON G/H/I REGISTRATION BADGE SERVICES
WRISTBANDS (18+)
TUNNEL TO THE MARRIOTT IS DOWNSTAIRS ACROSS FROM HALL A
DOWN TO EXHIBIT HALLS

SALON C MAID CAFE
SALON E POP UP LOCKERS
COSPLAY REPAIR
LOST & FOUND
SALON D QUIET ROOM
GOFER OPS
SALON A/B MECHA KAIKAN
UP TO L STREET BRIDGE
GRAND LOBBY
PROP CHECK
BAG INSPECT
COFFEE
THIS IS THE SOUTH BUILDING

HAVE BADGE
NO BAGS
NO PROPS

HAVE BADGE
HAVE BAGS/PROPS

MAIN ENTRANCE

ALLEN V. LEW PLACE

REGISTRATION ENTRANCE
(FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 9TH STREET & L STREET

LEVEL 1 9TH STREET

OTAKON MERCH BOOTH

HALL B/C
DEALERS ROOM

AUTOGRAPHS

HALL A
ARTIST ALLEY

DOWNTOWN FOOD DISTRICT

ENTER
HALL C
EXIT ONLY

UP TO PANEL, WORKSHOPS, & VIDEO ROOMS

EXIT
HALL B

UP TO PANEL, WORKSHOPS, & VIDEO ROOMS

ENTER/EXIT
HALL A

UP TO GRAND LOBBY

ATM

LOWER LEVEL

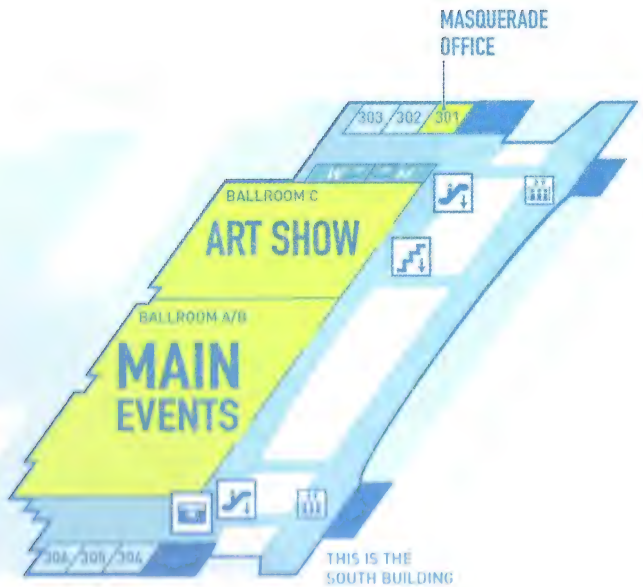
TUNNEL TO MARRIOTT LEVEL M2

WALTER E WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER

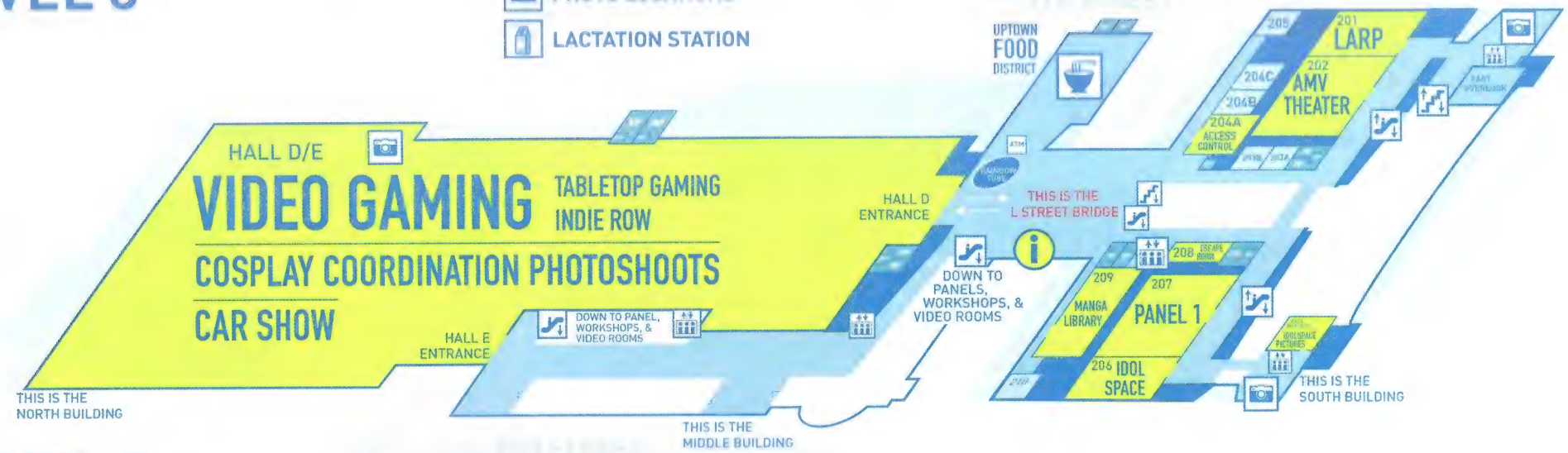
OTAKON® 2025

KEY

- ESCALATOR
- STAIRS
- ELEVATOR
- INFO DESK
- PROP CHECK
- BAG INSPECTION
- FOOD
- RESTROOM
- ATM
- WATER FOUNDTAIN
- PHOTO LOCATIONS
- LACTATION STATION



LEVEL 3



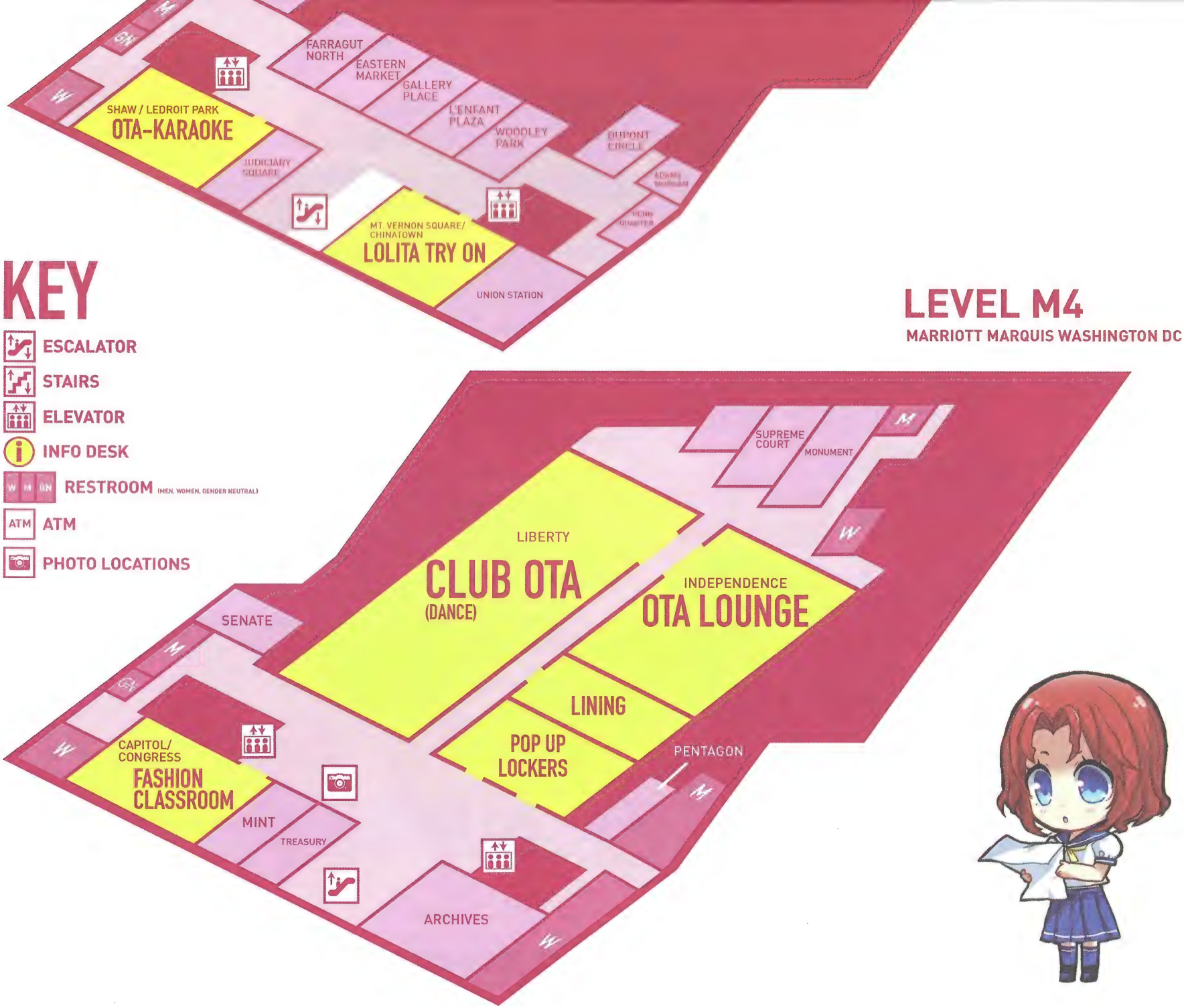
LEVEL 2

KEY

- ESCALATOR
- STAIRS
- ELEVATOR
- INFO DESK
- RESTROOM (MEN, WOMEN, GENDER NEUTRAL)
- ATM
- PHOTO LOCATIONS

LEVEL M4

MARRIOTT MARQUIS WASHINGTON DC



MARRIOTT MARQUIS

OTAKON® 2025 LEVEL M2

MARRIOTT MARQUIS WASHINGTON DC

LEVEL M3

MARRIOTT MARQUIS WASHINGTON DC

STAFF LIST

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Vice Con. Chair: Simon Chambers

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Cameron Hagan
Jason Laferte

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Judcia Williams
Leanna Pacheco
Eric Gaiser
Ina Gluth

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Co-Division Director: Jaren Haskins
Asst. Div. Director William Miron
Asst. Div. Director Jules Duyckinck
Asst. Div. Director Nelson Cuebas
Asst. Div. Director Omega Au

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James Adams

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Jason Kelley — Asst. Dept. Head

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Christopher Wanser — Asst. Hept Head

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Karina Garcia
Steven Wanser

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Glenden Augins — Asst. Hept Head
Jessica Spenner — Asst. Hept Head

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Alyson Tochterman
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Shaelyn Barltrop
Mary Hayden
Chelsea Williams
Noah Wilson
Jamie Lazarus
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Brian Davids
Gary Brown
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Krystal Yert

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Seilaila Ransom — Dept. Head Asst.

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Raymond Power III
Zackery Cowgill
Sam Halpern

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Christopher Ricks — Asst. Dept. Head

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Kim Wanser
Millicea Mitchell
Vanessa Kern

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Chelsea Bennett
Faith Derstine
Johnnie Lewis
William Blankenship
Tivon Ligon

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Brandon Doughty — Asst. Dept. Head
Hailey Edsall — Asst. Dept. Head
Diyaa Capil — Asst. Dept. Head
Mohan Aaron Bayona — Asst. Dept. Head

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David Huapaya
Epiphanie Dupree
Sam Kim
Toby Turton
Angie Jimenez
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Tara Mathews
Malika Hussein
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Ruo Piao Chen
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Kenny Tse
Tyler Buesing
Keyarah Ingram
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Mailinh Hoang
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Mostafa Haque
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Shaheera Hussein
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Tiffany Nguyen
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Viet Nguyen
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Ernestine Priebe
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Amanda LaSalle
Jamison Schenck
Miguel Hernandez
Manuel Sandoval
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Kelly cook
Jordyn Pizarro
Jeremy Bowen
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Damien Rodriguez
Steven Weng
Acheev Bhagat
Tristan Mekarzel
Charen Lloyd

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Michael Morris — Dept. Head

Tony Somerville
Nick Cox
Karen Henry
Michael Mark
Jenneida Cruz
Dione Toney
Joshua Fissel
Chris Toney
Joshua Toney
Ian Davis
James Haley
Matthew Rosenfeld

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Co-Division Director: Connor MacEntee

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Asst. Div. Director: Will Griffin

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Nolan Harper — Co-Dept. Head

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Erik Kjellquist
Alexa Leitkowski
Freya Alexandra
Victoria Kope
Tim Waters
Travis Daniel
Rebecca Moses
Courtney Beard

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Donna Berry — Co-Dept. Head

Lisa McClaugherty
Emma Enger
Tim Garman
Christian Savage
Gabriel Benamy
Susan Braviak
Hailey Fabrick
Kristen Loth Melanz
Brittany Hecker

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Lori Haddaway — Asst. Dept. Head
Bryan Long — Asst. Dept. Head

Courtney Beard
Bria Alexander
Meredith Cass-Antony
Katelynne Scudgington
Sarah Serrano- Esquilin
Stefanie Leygan
Olivia Bouton
Christian DelaCruz
Michael Roman
Jonathan Orr
Nandnalin Sirihorachai
Katherine Girgenti
Sean Lawless
Melissa Leygan
Alexes Schwarz
Paul Spangle
Robert Frantz
Chase Kroll
Emmer Credo

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George Regan — Dept. Head

Caitlin Grose
Elijah Oyola
Nicholas Keenan
Pedro De La Rosa

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Cody Reid	Co-Dept. Head
Alexander Mehos	Co-Dept. Head
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Laura Wolfe	Alicia Coit
Kathryn Feldman	Robert Maloney
Charles Feldman	AnnMarie Miller
Lakeysha Rice	

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Monique Medina	Asst. Dept. Head
Alan Orozco	

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Vincent Gau	Dept. Head

Video Gaming

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Fred Ng	Asst. Dept. Head
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Sandy Khem	James Landin
Christine Vo	Joseph Rivera
Dominique Smith	Elizabeth Gao
Nicholaas Eng	Tyler Chatelain
Boyen Shen	Primzain Magdael
Kathleen Bongco	Andy Nguyen
Paul Diep	Wesley Tran
Alex Kim	James Graves
Bethany Kim	Fores Yousifauni
Christian Noyola	David Ciccarello
Michael Kashner	Andrew Gates
Michael Baylon	Amanda Hannon
Monica Williams	Victor Steve Castro
Johnathan Breeden	Mia Santiago
Elaina Reiter	Robert Hand
Kimberly Huynh	Gabe Cargo

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Asst. Div. Director: Mike Rayes

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Phuong Huynh	Co-Dept. Head
Shelby Sternberg	Asst. Dept. Head
Menen Springer	Colleen Kalkofen
Robert Duyckinck	Rachel Frodsham
Todd Peterson	Ainsleigh Sternberg
Ryan Sweeney	Melinda Lee
Jonathan Barton	Uriel Chavez Ramirez

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Leona Bleich	Caleb Fordham
Jimmy Strong	Laurel A Fordham
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Emma Buzzetta	Gabriellia Bailey
Sarah-Alexis Kelley	

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Reider White II	Malachi Musick
Maile Kihara	Ethan Lee
Russian Wyatt	Jennifer Howells
Richard Lee	Yui Ishiyama
Kristen Kille	Yuriko Aikyo

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Alice Volkmar	Asst. Dept. Head
Jessica Merriman	Asst. Dept. Head
Sam Dang	Rachael McCleary
Marvin Vinluan	Amanda Wein
Lawrence Gee	Steven Mitchell
Matthew Mather	Tony Hoang
Samuel Wein	Jessica Merriman
Trevor Adams	Marcus Smazik
Christ Allen	Joseph Wright
Rachel Kuntz	Kevin Swoboda
Emily McMillan	Jacqueline Reitnauer
Lily Lo	Derek Cannistraro

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Jim Vowles	Darius Washington

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Christ Allen

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Jeffrey Lee	Asst Dept. Head

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Yuhi Aikyo	Asst. Dept. Head
Adriell Chan	Asst. Dept. Head
Junsuke Nohara	Asst. Dept. Head
Ryo Nakahata	Asst. Dept. Head
Jeffrey Lee	Asst. Dept. Head
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Lillian Olsen	Maho Azuma
Toshifumi Yoshida	Hana Takio
Mari Morimoto	Darius Jahandarie
Su Song	Allison Fluharty
George Endo	Eric Zheng
Yoshihiro Watanabe	Jiay Shida
Maya Adachi	Maho Ong
Sarah Choo	Alexis Palmer
Amanda Waddell	
Katsuya Shiratori	Kanna Inoshita
Mei Hidaka	Reina Kobayashi
Ryusuke Kanagawa	Misaki Funada
Eiko Grafton	Ryoh Saotome
Kiriko Terai	Alexander Brussard
Dennis Chen	Shumpei Sakai
Shion Strickland	Yusuke Matsuura
Rei Aso	Maria Wiesboeck
Yuri Ando	Shoyo Hakozaki
Seiya Furukawa	Yoji Nabei
Isaiah Cox	Kentaro Vreeland
Peter Yang	Ayana May
Hitomi Ross	Wyatt Kaliser
Keisuke Tonouchi	Yuto Nakahata
Daichi Shonai	Joren Ishima
Io Saito	Sarah Choo
Riho Hagi	Jasmine Aldarondo-Eng
Jason Priebe	Yuto Yamazaki
Makoto Ueki	Kotaro Hashizume
Amanda Waddell	Tomoko Sater

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Mike Rayes	Co. Dept. Head
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Shelby Moses	Jennifer Jang
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Alyssa Belcher	Randy Padua
Jesse Battles	

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Tim Star	Gavin Reiner
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Christina Moore	Basil Berchekas
Sharon Swab	Anna Berchekas
Katie Epps	Earl Haynes
Sarah Hamacher	

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Matt Powell — Co-Dept. Head

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Kristen Mankowski — Deborah Delullo
Audrey Vogt

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Jason Smith Sr. — Asst.Dept .Head

Jason Laferte — Alfred Bannister
Jason Smith Jr. — Joseph Barber
Tori Smith

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Ivan Ku — Dept. Head
Brian Mullaney

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Scott Cai — Dept. Head

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Brian Cutler — Dept. Head
Andy Zerrlaut — Asst. Dept. Head
Jonathan Ong Yao — Public Maps

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Co-Division Director: Ewen Crunkhorn
Asst. Div. Director: JC Conway

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Sean Adams — Asst. Dept. Head

Johnny Quach — Andrew Davies
Jhoan Suriel — Bo Guo Luu
Thomas McKimm — Claire Shin

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Daniel Rivera — Asst. Dept Head

Cynthia Tenicela — Carolynn BurkelGansert
Erin Gansert — Roberth Espinal
Kenneth Mcconville — Paul Carrick
Jenifer Harding — Emily Dang
Nikkita Bechdel

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Kristen Wheeler — Co-Dept. Head
Caitlin Bonenfant — Asst. Dept Head
Nicole Mennillo — Asst. Dept Head

Rebecca Carlson — Kayn Lawson
Laura Schneider — Eric Coble
Laura Gordon — Oliver Behrens
Amina Garcia — Alison Fowlkes
Bianca Hernandez — Cycielya Sutton
Devin Jewell — Heather Kasper
Megan Smith
Kelly Turek

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Kady Kilmer — Co-Dept. Head
Tyler Buckley — Co-Dept. Head
Kira Gaskins — Lieutenant
Liz Williams — Lieutenant

Matthew Balsamo — Chelsea Bennett
Cassie Dewald — Derek Dreyfuss
Ash Durrett Eden — Jessie Durrett
Jim Housell — Sara Hagoss
Erin Kennedy — Alison Johnson
Skip Kopp — Kyle Kilmer
Sarah Metcalfe — Neal Leyendecker
Maura Russell — Mariah Nue
LaVita Selinger — Alicia Sebzda
Amber Taylor — Brady Sheffer
Domo Woods — Liz Umpenhour
Ari Jurgenson — Caelan Tietze
Marquise Jackson — Greg Fournier

Lost & Found
Robert Paredes — Dept. Head
Edward Chang — Lieutenant
Kenneth Doh — Lieutenant

Amanda Amengual — Daniel Austin
Christine Barnes — Sebastian Black
Anya Byrd — Natasha Danielian
Elyse Krumbein — Giang Nguyen
Jonathan Pinto — Marissa Salad
Helen See — Khanh Truong
James Vo — Amanda Weber

Member Accessibility
Oscar Bautista — Dept. Head
Katharine Bush — Asst. Dept. Head

Arlo Dennis — Lyuci Reaves
Fri Sherr — Jeffrey Wang

Registration
Sarah Smith — Dept. Head
Zoe Smith — Dept. Head
Carly Cheng — Asst. Dept. Head
David Sloan — Lieutenant
Melissa Soffer — Lieutenant
Matthew Traina — Lieutenant
Erin Yamaguchi — Lieutenant

Faye Adams — Bella Atwood
Trenna Alestock — Cassandra Carnahan
Jefferson Eng — Laurence Decastro
Burnest Griffin IV — Asher Groeschler
Christine Jones — Elizabeth Hoover
Javier Rosa-Lozada — Gary Lam
Manuel Magbulos — Michael Nguyen
Jasmine Olson — Araceli Olson
Erica Patterson — Yolanda Dobarco-Ramos
Rhys Rudiger — Shannon Roy-Wyatt
EeChiann Shen — Dione Smith
Judy Shen — Amanda Smith
Alexander Thoopsamoot — Geoffrey Shlapak
Alexa Van Gilder — Katrina Olson
Brianna Walker

Roving Info
Jen Rose Rizzo — Dept. Head Asst.
Lukas Peruzovic — Dept. Head
Josh Conway — Lieutenant
Anna Wang — Lieutenant

Gabriella Bugge — David Jennings
Emmeline Nguyen — Lucas Rizzo
Rebecca Rizzo — Robyn Swayne
Brittany Williams

PROGRAMMING

Division Director: Brian Cutler
Asst. Div. Director: Bruce Broseker
Jenni Bon — Liz Cutler
Jason Barron — Kevin Pytel
Rachel Haderer

Anime Music Video (AMV) Theater
Victor Boruta — Dept. Head

Brett Almquist — Amanda Boruta
JP Burke — Keilyn DiStefano
Dan Hardy-Skeberdis — Benjamin Lucek
Melanie Hardy-Skeberdis — Robyn Phipps
Anthony Mirabella — Jeremiah Soria
William Vinci — Eric Wastl

Fashion District
Ashlee Maloney — Dept. Head

Stephanie Cross — Kimbely Hernandez
Demi Jackson — Katelynn Lemons
Krystal Moore — Damilola Zamba
Mikayla Quarles

Host Club
Michael Vankim — Dept. Head

Alecxandra Bartolome — Alice Zhu
Amanda Farmer — Giovanni Boursiquot
Calvin Ly — Janet estre
Cary Light — Justin Dare
Chappel Sears — Keisha Jones
Charles Shen — Mykah Bird
Dalena Duy — Paula Lucas
David Cleckly — Sean Malone
Dariel Bossons — Logan Thomasson
William Thompson

Hall Costume Contest
Mike Godett — Dept. Head
Simone Blanchat — Asst. Dept Head

Tiffany Chen — Eli Habersetzer
Stephanie Pansini — Raiden Khan Chloe
Maggie Smith — Randolph
Lily Carothers

Performance
Tama Anderson — Dept. Head

Michael Lee — Mickayla Shear
Jayden Stansberry — Aden Edwards
Corey Lopez — Anthony Yim
Katiya Goodman — Shiraz Binyamin
Thomas Houghton III — Lance Lin
Kaye Austin

Manga Library
Gabriella Bugge — Dept. Head

Blique Gassie — Wilber Lopez
Jamie Grimm

LARP - Live Action Role Playing:

Regan Mercer	Dept. Head
Linda Wilson	Dept. Head
Katrina Drake	James Griffis Hans
Lore Hera	Koczorowski-Weidig
Bryan Morgan	John Raulston
Jessica Tatum	Matthew Brodie-Hopkins

Maid Cafe:

Tiffany Chai	Dept. Head
Kelly Wong	Dept. Head
Nicholas Anderson	Angela DeFraia
Rebecca Cho	Gerardo Esguerra
Bryan Doan	Max Kim
Virginia Dunkley	Zuoyang Li
Robert Jenquin	Omar Maybin
Jason Kang	Tyrone Moore
Susan Nembhard	Jacqueline Prado
Simone Overton	Merick Romero
Brian Rice	Chanell Taylor
Candice Tranks	Andrea Tse
	John Yang

Main Events

Joshua Otis	House Manager
Deborah Berry	Stage Manager
Maricela Baca	Asst. Stage Manager
Kathleen Hall	Prod. Ops Manager
Nick Crouch	Amanda Ohlin
Michael Ritter	Owen McKain
Jerry Herring Jr.	Candace Orellana
W. Stephen Bierer	Jessica Guevara
Bryan Kimball	Daniel Kennedy
Francis Suen	Clarissa Skekel
Matthew Baker	Rose Rappaport
Kelly Duffy	Edward Mills
	Michael Burgtorf

Mecha Kaikan

Andy Zerrlaut	Dept. Head
Lucas Peruzovic	Andrew Hobson

Makerspace

Kelly Fitzpatrick	Dept. Head
Evan Corcoran	Cassandra Eckert
Shannon Fitzpatrick	Su Ah Lee
Felicity Koch	Jonathan Price
Benjamin Sideman	Joah Rittenhouse
Heather Wentz	April Weimer

Masquerade

Christine Hickey	Dept. Head
Ross Guida	Asst Dept Head
Amanda Walker	Co. Head
Jason Barron	AV Lead
Hannah Cohn	Kyle Daley
Ian Masterson	Marissa Theodore

Opening/Closing Ceremonies

Joshua Harmon	Dept Head
Bob Klemens	

Ota-chan

Courtney Murphy	Dept. Head
Peter Murphy	Dept. Head
Stephanie Gaiser	Allison Monroe

Otacafe

DJ Wilsey	Dept. Head
Roxanne Atienza	Jeffrey Caulkins
Kathryn Caulkins	Nicholas McCamant
	Jason Linetsky

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Matthew Walls	Co-Dept. Head
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Eamon Campbell	Frank Ball
Aileen Carrier	Madison Cardona
Katelyn Cutler	Rebecca Connor
Alicia Donovan	Matt Graves
Chris Gonzalez	Jennifer Galloway
Michael Heuss	Zelmia Harvey
David Mutschler	Kathleen Heuss
Colleen O'Brien	Sergio Nino
Duane Pershing	Rose-Anne O'Leary
Laura Shearer	Danielle Porter
Lilly Solorzano	Matthew Sparks
Jessica Sullivan	Sean-David Storan
Raymondo Williams	Julia Temler

Videos

John Fitzgerald	Dept. Head
Kelly McKinney	Asst. Dept. Head
Morgan Wise	Asst. Dept. Head
Thomas Blanchat	Kathryn Feldman
Desmond Fulton	Jocelyn Gluck
Hayley McLean	Sepp Latifullah
E. Bernhard Warg	Mary O'Brien
	John Razic

Club Ota

Katelyn Tran	Dept. Head
Nasia Nguyen	Marshall Emerson
Elena Porter-Nunez	Luis Tapia Torres

Workshops

Cyrus Ramavarapu	Dept. Head
Scott Pasman Chambers	Dept. Head
Zubair Choudhury	Michelle Claiborne
Kori Francis	Allan Garry
Robert Haderer	Alane Lim
Allison Monroe	Yvonne Nguyen
Jessica Pearson	Jordan Phillips
Brandi Rhone	Claudette Rhone
Judy Shen	Matthew Sparks
Brian Szeto	Bailey Vincent
April Weimer	Rinnah Yencarell

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Co-Division Director:	Simon Chambers
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Blique Shi	Calvin Lee
Rose Rappaport	Kimi Pawlowski
Jhoan Suriel	Christian Savage

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Asst. Div. Director:	Patrick Clewell

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John Spragge	

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Robin Hetzel	Daniel Meeks
Susan Monroe	Christopher Ochs
Jonathan Price	Katy Smith

Staff Pool

Krista Hoxie	Co-Dept. Head
Rigil Abellanosa	Co-Dept. Head
Amanda Bibik	Asst. Dept. Head
Sakura Blaize	Asst. Dept. Head
Keith Clewell	Asst. Dept. Head
Jessica Stephens	Asst. Dept. Head
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Krista Hoxie	Dimitri Costa
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Geoffrey Shlapak	Alex Hong
Ari Nori	Anthony Barrante
Margaret Drake	James Schulze Jr
Robert Drake	Kevin Sum
	Dawn Jensen

OtaCare

Evan McNeal	Dept. Head
Heather McNeal	Dept. Head
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Nicole Carter	Claudine Castano
Jesse Chang	Vietanh Dinh
Kaeden Foster	Laura Gordon
Makaya Hicks	Katherine Katan
Christopher Leger	Gary Lau
Beth McNeal	Shawn McNeal
Grace McNeal	Abgayle Nelms
Samantha Muhat	Amy Nguyen
Karl-Andrew	Nicholas Ruszak
Perkins Abdul Hadi	Sid Ahmed

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Kimberly Baker	Dept. Head
Timeeka Bruton	Dept. Head
Jalani LeMaitre	Scott Newhall
Abigail Ledford	Mauti Owens
Sean Tucker	Dionna Wesley-Johnson
Carmelie Garnier	

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Comptroller: Kenneth Bryson
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Psyche Leah Hijara
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Omar Jenkins
Gabrielle Filler
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Viola Blanchat

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EJ Jolly — Co-Dept. Head
Zhi Cheng — Co-Dept. Head

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Aljonn Valones
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Zane Howard
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Eric Murray
Joey Jones
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Jamie Moyer
Michael Haymore
Kun Sun Sweeley
Robin Hoover
Brian Nichols
David Soracco
Matt Keene
Holly Jones

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS

AutumnLion
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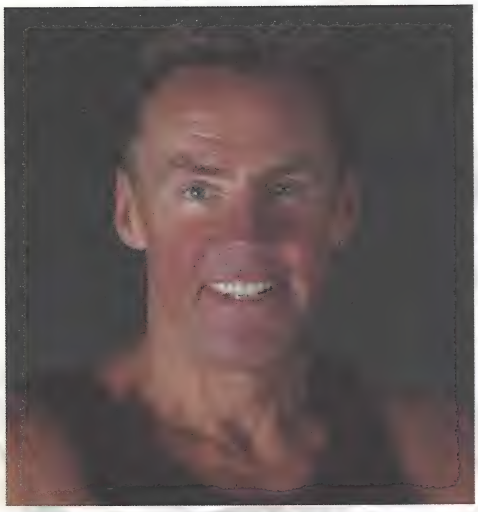
Drawnbylvy
JYK Doodles
Inho Moon
Liangarts
Whispwill
Weymin Ngo
Julianne Le
Meow Royale
Paperlarva
PepperCut Studio
Rainubrew
Sarah Myer
Theghostegg
Squiiji
Mary Ann Countryman

IN MEMORIAM

Rachael Lillis

R

James Carter Cathcart



Dale Wilson

Jan Scott Frazier

Fumi Kitahara

Ken Shiroyama

Yoko Kawanami

AUTOGRAPHS

VOLUNTEERING AT OTAKON

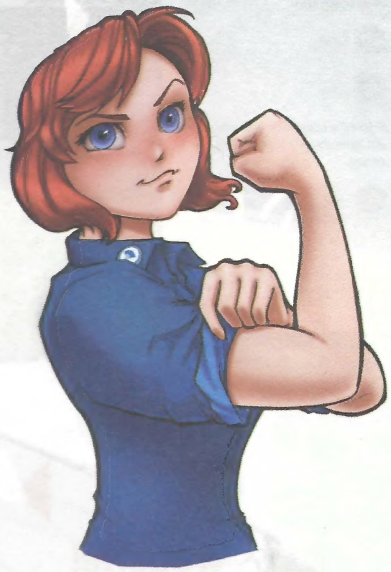
WE OFTEN SAY OTAKON IS "FOR FANS, BY FANS," BUT WHAT DOES THAT REALLY MEAN?

Otakorp (the the 501(c)(3) that puts on Otakon), is a non-profit organization and each of you is a member of that organization. That membership gets you into our annual meeting that is the awesomeness that is "Otakon", but some of our members do even more for the organization.

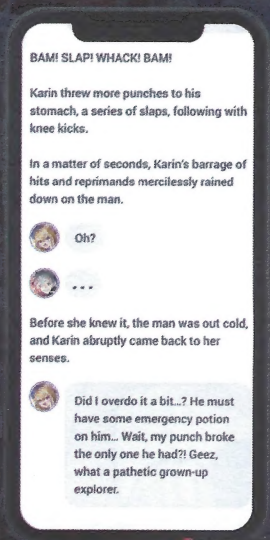
Take a few minutes and look over all the names in the back of this program guide. Each of them played a key part of putting this show together. Each is a fan (just like you) and not a single one (except our lawyer), gets paid for staffing Otakon.

Many of our all-volunteer army of black-shirted staff work year-round, but the names you don't see listed in our program book are the 200-or-so who join us to volunteer just for the weekend. We affectionately call them "Gofers" and they help out throughout the entire convention. You can spot them by the brown T-Shirts and orange badge holders. You probably first met one helping to get your badge at Registration or wrangling a line. Gofers assist with just about every department we have and we couldn't put on this show without the extra help we get from them!

Ever wanted to get a behind-the-scenes look at how we put this show on? Want to give back to your Otaku community? Then consider volunteering with us next year as a Gofer! Registration for Gofers usually opens online shortly after registration for the convention opens, so keep an eye out on our website around that time. Most of our staff started out as Gofers, including our President!



Want to learn more about our Gofer program? Visit the "Volunteer at Otakon" section of our website for an FAQ and more information.


BAM! SLAP! WHACK! BAM!
Karin threw more punches to his stomach, a series of slaps, following with knee kicks.
In a matter of seconds, Karin's barrage of hits and reprimands mercilessly rained down on the man.
Oh?
...
Before she knew it, the man was out cold, and Karin abruptly came back to her senses.
Did I overdo it a bit...? He must have some emergency potion on him... Wait, my punch broke the only one he had?! Geez, what a pathetic grown-up explorer.

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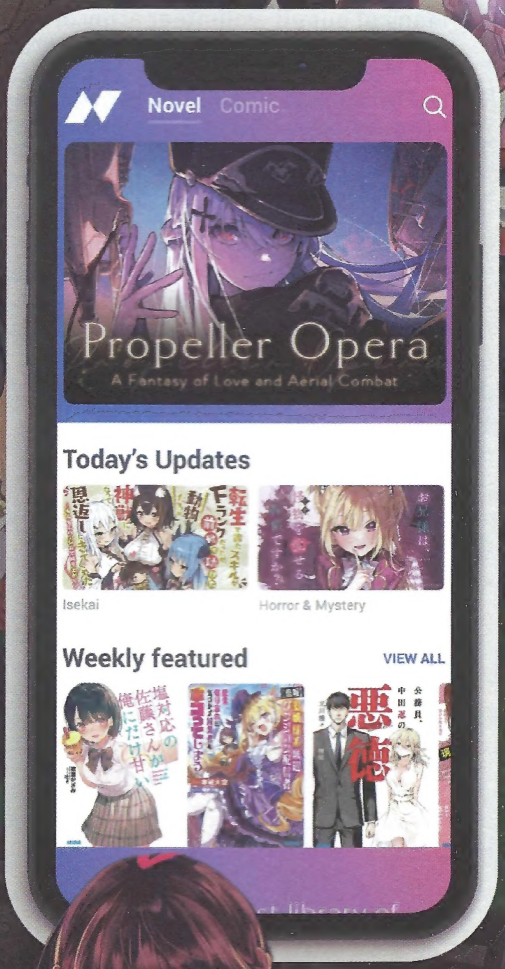

Killer in Love
The STRONGEST SAVIOR's Second Chance
My Betrothed is a Villainess?! That's Preposterous!
Battle in 5 Seconds
Sage Ryddel and the Hands of Time
I'm Cute Enough to Get Away with It!

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www.Daikaya.com
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www.BantamKing.com

Cover Art by Sarah Myer

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